Daily Report

Latin America

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FBIS-LAT-91-121 *24 June 1991*

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Cuba

Armed Cubans Hijack Ship, Sail to U.S. 21 Jun

PA2206192291 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1821 GMT 22 Jun 91

[Text] Havana, 22 Jun (EFE)—A ship with several Canadian tourists on board was hijacked yesterday, 21 June, by at least four Cuban citizens carrying submachine guns. This was confirmed to EFE in Havana today by Cuban officials who asked to remain unidentified.

The heavily armed hijackers seized the Cuban tourist vessel as it was sailing out of Guanabo, approximately 30 km east of Havana. The Canadian tourists were taken hostage and the ship set course for the United States.

According to the sources, two Cuban Coast Guard vessels escorted the ship to the boundaries of Cuban territorial waters, but did not attempt to board the ship or prevent it from sailing for fear that something would happen to the hostages.

The hijackers apparently reached the coast of Florida where they released their hostages. This report, however, has not been confirmed.

Earlier reports mentioned that two of the tourists on board were Spanish citizens; however, this has been denied by the Spanish General Consulate in Havana.

Cuban Opposition Group Presents Reform Program

AU2106172391 Prague SVOBODNE SLOVO in Czech 20 Jun 91 p 2

[Ivana Belouskova report: "Presidents and Dissidents"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The "Alternative Criterion" opposition organization, which is a group of Cubans with social democratic orientation, has come up with a comprehensive program for changes in Cuba, which provides for the formation of a provisional government that should not be in power for more than 14 months. Representatives of the Alternative Criterion presented this proposal to the CTK office in Havana on Tuesday [18 June].

In it they demand that the provisional government be presided over by the Council of National Salvation, which should be made up of four representatives of the present regime—with the presence of the Castro brothers completely ruled out, however—as well as 10 representatives of internal Cuban opposition and seven representatives of Cubans living in exile. They propose, furthermore, that the government prepare general elections and secure peace and order in the country as well as a climate needed to build democratic mechanisms. They also demand the establishment of a constitutional assembly that should prepare conditions for a referendum on a new constitution. General, direct, and free elections should then take place within three months at the latest. [passage omitted]

Politburo Member on PCC Congress, Socialism

PA2406042191 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Jun 91

[Text] I believe that we must make our system more flexible, but only those things that are required or appropriate to the Cuban people in Cuba, never because of impositions from abroad, Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], has said in an interview published today by the weekly JUVENTUD REBELDE.

Machado Ventura said that Cuba is virtually the only rival of the enemy in the world, thus it is time to spread the idea that the disappearance of socialism on the island would mean the disappearance of the country as a nation.

When questioned about the possibility of changing the name of the PCC, Machado Ventura responded that this would be ridiculous and formal, adding that we are very happy with this name, with which our people identify several years of struggle and real accomplishments.

Concerning the PCC's Fourth Congress scheduled for 10 October, Machado Ventura said that it will basically discuss and find solutions to problems, but without illusions or imagining that the difficulties will disappear after the congress has ended.

Machado Ventura added that the PCC's Congress will assess the so-called special period, and will decide how we will continue to defend the existence and the dignity of the Cuban nation.

[Madrid EFE in Spanish at 0145 GMT on 24 June carries a 425-word dispatch that adds: "Machado Ventura said that the PCC has reduced its personnel roster by 25 percent and its Central Committee staff by 60 percent, in an attempt to strengthen the rank and file and reduce its superstructure. He also pointed out that in the event of a worsening of the country's economic crisis, the number of people expected to attend the PCC's Fourth Congress, initially estimated at 1,800, will be reduced; even the site of the congress, the eastern city of Santiago de Cuba, the second-largest city in the country, would be changed."]

Fight Against Crime Said Major CDR Task

FL2206124191 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] Division General Sixto Batista Santana, the national coordinator of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR], has said that the ideological struggle to defend the revolution is the primary task of the CDR. Batista, who is also an alternate member of the Politburo, said that the fight against crime and building protection projects are fundamental activities entrusted to the CDR by the Communist Party of Cuba. At the conclusion of the meeting held at the offices of the General Staff of the Revolutionary Armed Forces in

Havana Province, Sixto Batista stated that the revolution must be defended 24 hours a day, and the CDR should direct their greatest efforts to this end.

Germany's Gysi Criticizes Suspension of Accords

FL2206174991 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1625 GMT 22 Jun 91

[Text] Gregor Gysi, the chairman of the German Party of Democratic Socialism, has censured the German Government's decision to suspend the former GDR's agreements with Cuba. Gysi has stated that this position contravenes the provisions of the unification treaty for the former two German states, under which the FRG was to assume the agreements of the then GDR unless some modification was decided on jointly and not unilaterally.

Luaces Comments on Soviet Trade Delegation Visit

PA2306001291 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 1400 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Report by Nancy Lopez]

[Text] During these moments of political confusion and turbulence in the world, there is a lot of speculation in the West with respect to the state of relations between Cuba and the USSR. However, the will of both nations points, without any doubt, to the continuation of ties established over the course of three decades, although with certain modifications depending on the actual needs of each country.

A Soviet commercial delegation recently visited Cuba headed by Aleksandr Krivenko, general director of the export company Prodingtor. Trade Policy Director Felix Luaces, a member of the Trade Policy Directorate of the Cuban Foreign Trade Ministry, will elaborate on the role of this company in the trade relations between the Soviet Union and Cuba.

[Begin Luaces Recording] Prodingtor, which is represented by Mr. Krivenko, who recently visited Cuba, is of specific importance to us in that it exports to Cuba most of the food we receive from the Soviet Union, basically butterfat, milk by-products, canned meat, different types of canned goods, vegetable oils, and other essential items.

At the same time, this company is the only importer of Cuban sugar; in other words, it monopolizes 100 percent of the Cuban sugar imported. It also imports other Cuban products, such as tobacco products—Havana cigars, cigarettes, tobacco leaves, and other products related to the tobacco industry. This company has had relations with Cuba since economic and commercial relations were established more than 30 years ago. It has always had very clear, direct, and contractual trade relations with Cuban companies, particularly with CUBAZUCAR [Cuban Sugar and Sugar By-Products Export Enterprise] and ALIMPORT [Cuban Foodstuffs Import Enterprise].

For us this visit was very important, not only for what Prodingtor represents to us as a commercial partner, but also because it a first-time visit. It is a symbiotic relationship, as it is called in the USSR, between the center and the Republic. A company of the union—Prodingtor in this specific case—visits us, and in some cases food and agriculture ministers from the Belorussian Republic, the Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and the Russian Federation—by far the biggest and most important republic—may come. These republics supply all the products to which I have previously referred, and at the same time are the biggest consumers of Cuban sugar. [end recording]

The Soviet delegation visited Cuba at a time when there had been interruptions in the trade of some products due to internal difficulties in the Soviet Union. According to Mr. Luaces, during the talks, important agreements were reached with respect to normalizing the exchange of bilateral trade.

[Begin Luaces recording] The visit was within the framework of specifying the agreements both countries had endorsed on a government level on 29 December 1990. These agreements regulate all economic and trade activities between both countries for 1991. However, life is richer than time or the signing of a document. The difficulties that the USSR is currently undergoing—which are well known to all—has resulted in a negative effect on the flow of trade between both countries, due to the lack of internal supply in the USSR, specifically as it refers to the traditional export of food to Cuba.

As I said, the visit was to reassert, confirm, and specify food supply exports which, even though they have been contractually defined since last year, are now necessary because they were not received during the first six months of 1991, which has resulted in a decrease in our supply. We believe that with this visit, favorable ground rules were created that will normalize or—to be conservative in our answer—try to normalize this flow of food trade from the USSR to Cuba, and continue with the delivery of sugar, quite necessary in the USSR, but which Cuba has been delivering normally. Cuba plans to honor its 1991 commitments with the USSR for the rest of the year. [end recording]

According to the Cuban trade official, trade between the USSR and Cuba is currently governed by prices on the international market.

[Begin Luaces recording] Since 1 January, we have been using trade mechanisms that are entirely different from those we have used over the past 30 years in Cuban-USSR trade. At present we are conducting trade under strict market terms, that is, world market prices, and using a trade currency—the U.S. dollar. We still have trade with the USSR, but under entirely different terms than during the past 30 years. [end recording]

Castro Attends Reception at Venezuelan Embassy

FL2206120691 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Jun 91

[Text] Commander in chief Fidel Castro, the first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, attended a reception held by Dr. Maria Clemencia Lopez, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Venezuela in Cuba. (?The reception) was held to mark the conclusion of the third meeting of university presidents from the two countries, which had been held in Havana.

Fidel talked with the representatives of the Cuban and Venezuelan centers of higher education and expressed interest in the work currently being done at the Havana Advanced Institute of Agricultural and Livestock Sciences and the Agricultural Sciences Institute. The meeting of Cuban and Venezuelan university presidents ended in Havana with the signing of 34 cooperation agreements and 11 letters of intention.

Fidel Castro Tours Project Orbis Plane

FL2206150991 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Jun 91

[Text] Commander in chief Fidel Castro, the president of the Councils of State and Ministers, toured the Project Orbis DC-8 the afternoon and received the pin that represents this humanitarian organization.

[Begin Project Orbis Director Oliver Foot recording in English] Commander, it has been our honor to come to Cuba, where your health systems and delivery of public health is a benchmark and beacon to the world. You are leaders in health care and education due to your direct involvement and direction. We have been impressed by your sophisticated surgeons, impressed by your management of health care, impressed by your medical personnel's dedication to fighting blindness. But most of all, we have been impressed by your generous hospitality and spirit of cooperation.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you into the international family of Project Orbis, which involves thousands of people from 60 countries across the world, and to symbolically give you these Orbis wings, which will bring the family of Cuban ophthalmologists, doctors, nurses, anesthetists, administrators, and public health people, your health minister, all your administrators that have made this a wonderful project, and welcome you all into our family. [sentence as heard] [applause] [end recording]

Fidel toured the DC-8 plane at Guajay Airport, where 16 of the 18 operations performed to date have taken place. Our commander in chief talked with Project Orbis Director Oliver Foot and other specialists about the project's humanitarian work. Fidel said the project intensifies efforts to benefit the 42 million blind and visually impaired people in the world. He also observed part of a cataract operation performed by Cuban and American surgeons in the plane's operating room. Finally, he talked with the Cuban doctors who, from the VIP room at the Guajay Airport, observed the operations performed on board the DC-8.

[Begin Castro recording] Our people, our doctors are ready. (?We are ready) to make use of the experiences that our doctors keep amassing through cooperation with the best specialists in the world. We are in a position to make use of this immediately. We have our specialized hospitals, our microsurgery centers, our specialists in every province, in all the surgical clinics. Our ophthalmic surgery service exists throughout the country, in all of the country's hospitals. So we are very well able to make use of all these experiences.

We can assure them that the effort they have made, the hours they have invested, the seed they have planted, has been planted in fertile soil. That is our country, because we are making so many efforts regarding the citizens' health problems. We may have been the 60th country to be visited by Orbis, but I hope we will be number one in applying its experiences and making use of its efforts. Thank you very much. [applause] [end recording]

Matanzas Supertanker Base Tests 'Successful'

FL2206124291 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] The work of unloading and mixing crude oil begun at the minimal start-up complex at the Matanzas supertanker base was described as successful by Lenin Ruiz, deputy director of the Petroleum Derivatives Distribution Enterprise. The official explained that a total of 43,000 tons of fuel were unloaded into the tanks on land and three types of crude were mixed in order to obtain the appropriate type for the Nico Lopez Refinery in Havana.

Ruiz added that the average rate for unloading was 6,500 tons per hour, which is below the base's capacity of 10,000 because none of the participating ships was a supertanker. Regarding the mixing of crude, a task carried out for the first time in Cuba, Deputy Director of Operations Eduardo Martinez said he believes this is a new opportunity for the country to obtain hard currency income and better utilize the base.

Inter-Caribbean Affairs

OECS Leaders Support Single Market Creation

FL2106113791 Bridgetown CANA in English 2130 GMT 20 Jun 91

[Text] St. George's, Grenada, June 20, CANA—Heads of government of Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States [OECS] member countries are pushing for an OECS single market. They opened a meeting here late Wednesday saying the market is necessary and achievable.

"Fortunately, we are at a stage of integration where it will be possible within a relatively short period of time for us to establish an OECS single market," said Grenada's Prime Minister Nicholas Brathwaite, the new chairman of the seven-member grouping. The existing single currency and monetary union of the OECS countries are indicators of their readiness for a single market, Brathwaite said.

Montserrat's Chief Minister John Osborne and St. Kitts and Nevis Prime Minister Dr. Kennedy Simmonds emphasised the importance of the single market to the future of the OECS. Osborne told the leaders "the way we deal with the issues concerning the establishment of a single market in the OECS, among other areas, will dictate the pace of progress."

Dr. Simmonds said: "We must implement the mechanisms for the hassle-free movement of people and for the movement of capital and labour in a constructive and controlled manner."

OECS Director General Dr. Vaughn Lewis said the need for a single market was evident when developments within the wider Caribbean Community (Caricom) region were taken into consideration.

"It is therefore from this perspective that the (OECS economic affairs secretariat) has put forward a proposal for now proceeding to a fully open market among the OECS countries, liberalizing in effect the movement of all factors of production," Lewis said.

Director of the secretariat, Dr. Carl Mitchell, said the single market is needed among the islands "if we are to cushion the harsh economic burdens that are anticipated when Europe becomes a single market after 1992." Mitchell said the single market proposal received "overwhelming support" from delegates at a preparatory meeting Monday for the current conference.

The actual workings of a single market are expected to be discussed by the heads before they wrap up deliberations Friday at the Ramada Renaissance Hotel conference venue.

Passports Abolished Between OECS Countries

FL2206022291 Bridgetown CANA in English 2229 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Report by Richard Simon]

[Text] St. George's, Grenada, June 21, CANA—Citizens of Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) countries will no longer need passports to travel to any member-country as of December 1 this year, leaders decided here on Friday.

OECS chairman, Grenada's Prime Minister Nicholas Brathwaite told a press conference after a two-day meeting of heads of government, abolishing the need for passports means a freeing up of travel within the islands. He said OECS citizens will only need some form of identification and will be filling out a shortened version of the current international immigration cards.

"The situation is that passports will not be needed between the OECS islands as of December first," the OECS chairman told reporters. The OECS countries are Antigua and Barbuda, St. Kitts and Nevis, Monsterrat, Dominica, Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and St. Lucia.

"There will be a restricted form which would simply have your name (and) nationality. You would tick in an appropriate box, with a choice of two boxes, whether or not you are travelling on a passport or another identification document," Brathwaite said. Officials of the OECS economic affairs secretariat immediately welcomed the announcement, saying the move will help increase the movement of labour within the states.

"It's a start in the right direction," said director of the secretariat, Dr. Carl Mitchell. "It's one of the things we will have to do in terms of making the movement of labour easier. It makes it easier for people to get in and out without unnecessary hindrance."

On Thursday, the West Indian Commission, examining ways to take the Caribbean Community into the 21st century, called for an end of travel restrictions in the community of which the OECS is a part. Mitchell said he was looking forward to the elimination of work permit restrictions.

"Once you abolish the work permit, that's it," he said, describing that as an integral part of a single-market proposal.

Participants at the OECS summit spoke of its success in ironing out problems and the signing of an agreement allowing national insurance schemes [NIS] in the subregion to work together.

"The signing of the agreement for the NIS facility is encouraging because it allows people to work in other OECS territories and not lose the benefits in their home island," a conference official told CANA.

West Indian Commission Plan for 21st Century

FL2006171791 Bridgetown CANA in English 1651 GMT 20 Jun 91

[Report by Rickey Singh]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, June 20, CANA—The West Indian Commission has identified sixteen areas in which Caribbean Community (Caricom) countries have "definite potential for all-round development" in preparation for the challenges of the 21st century.

The report listed among the advantages: geographical location—"at the juncture of the three Americas"—as well as access to preferential markets in Canada, the U.S., and Europe, and the potential of women to make greater contributions to the economy.

In a 53-page "Progress Report," the commission said that the Caribbean had "much brighter prospects" if the region's governments acted jointly in designing "adjustment programmes" and in negotiating with international financial institutions. The report submitted to the 13-member community's governments in time for their July summit in St. K.tts and Nevis, the commission, headed by former Commonwealth Secretary-General, Shridath Ramphal, said:

"The future of the region is certainly not a matter of doom and gloom. There are elements of potential for development which give a bias for hope rather than despair...."

Launched in November 1989, the commission has been mandated by Caricom governments to formulate proposals to advance the goals of the treaty that brought Caricom into existence at Chaguaramas, Trinidad, in 1973. Also, through a process of region-wide consultations, the commission was requested by Caricom governments to help prepare the community to cope with the imperatives of change beyond this final decade of the 20th century.

The commission has proposed to Caricom governments a range of specific areas for "immediate action," consistent with popular sentiments expressed in consultations with the region's peoples over the past 17 months.

The "immediate action" plan includes: "hassle-free" travel by Caribbean citizens within the Caricom region without passports; specific steps towards the creation of a common Caricom currency; establishment of a single Caricom market; and a special Caribbean investment fund with a minimum of U.S. 50 million dollars raised on external capital markets.

The commission lamented the "virtual absence of effective machinery for implementation of regional decisions as a major impediment to the progress of the integration movement," Caricom. It expressed "fear for the future of Caricom" unless the community's governments systematically implement the agreements they have reached for the transformation of Caricom single market and economy.

The commission's report, which is to be followed up by a final and more comprehensive document for the 13th Caricom summit in July next year, speaks strongly of the "sense of alienation" resulting from impediments to free movement of West Indians through the region and of the "implications of massive cultural penetration."

Directed to both the region's "people and governments," the report highlights some of the areas in which it sees the region has "definite potential."

Among these are:

—the region's geographical location—at the junction of the three Americas, north, central and south—with the potential that this location "carries for making us into a centre of trade, tourism, investment, and economic activity."

—the "great potential" held out to the region by the exclusive economic zone of the sea in any consideration of improved access to fishery and mineral resources.

—access to preferential markets in Europe, Canada, and the U.S.A. and also in a bigger Latin American market through effective collaborative action.

—establishment of various financial institutions and financial instruments to mobilise regional savings for productive investment and efforts at attracting back to the region many of the "skilled and experienced West Indians" now located in North America and Britain have also been identified in the report.

The report also points to the "enormous natural resources of Guyana and to a somewhat lesser extent Belize," to enhance regional economic development through joint action.

The commission has urged the Caricom governments to pay attention to the honouring of deadlines set for implementation of decisions to deepen the economic integration process.

It recognised that the community lacks the necessary effective machinery to ensure the implementation of Caricom decisions but the report is silent on proposals for the restructuring and empowerment of the Caricom secretariat.

In addressing the question of "widening" of the community, currently an economic grouping of the English-speaking Caribbean countries with Haiti, Suriname, Dominican Republic, and Puerto Rico as observers on various permanent committees, the commission said that this was most desirable. It, however, felt that this should be balanced against the importance of first deepening the economic integration process among its founding members.

Promising to deal more fully with the deepening versus widening of Caricom issue in its final report, the commission said that it was already convinced that there may have to be a "dual track approach" that could produce differing levels of integration within a single Caribbean Community.

A delegation representing the commission is scheduled to meet with Caricom leaders at the St. Kitts-Nevis summit between July 1-4 to discuss the "Progress Report." The report is expected to be given a high place on the summit's agenda since, as was pointed out in CANA, "it touches on some of the issues of importance to the people of the community that require urgent action."

Barbados

Sandiford Meets With Hurd in London

FL2406112891 Bridgetown CANA in English 1859 GMT 22 Jun 91

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, June 22, CANA—Prime Minister Erskine Sandiford, urging better trade relations between developed and developing countries, has said world economic conditions are the more likely threat to Caribbean stability and security. Sandiford remarked that as cold war issues recede, threats to the region are less likely to arise from ideological causes than from distress in the prevailing world economic conditions, a Barbados Government Information Services (BGIS) statement said.

The prime minister, on a one-week official visit to the United Kingdom, was speaking during a working breakfast Friday with British Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Douglas Hurd. Sandiford "noted that there was need for a more congenial and sympathetic regime for the interchange of goods and services between the industrialised world and developing countries such as Barbados and other (Caribbean Community) Caricom states," the statement said.

He also urged Britain to "use its influence in various groupings and in the multilateral institutions" to ensure that developing countries are not penalised when they achieve some degree of economic advancement. Barbados and other middle-income developing countries have complained of being graduated to less concessional treatment by multilateral financial institutions based on their higher per capita income levels.

The discussions between Sandiford and Hurd also dealt with Caricom-UK negotiations on a multilateral air services agreement, drug trafficking, electoral matters in the region, and the next Commonwealth heads of government meeting, BGIS said.

Dominican Republic

Balaguer on Haitian Repatriation, D.R. Illegals

FL2106172391 Santo Domingo Cadena de Noticias in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Excerpts] President Joaquin Balaguer insisted that the Puerto Rican Government mistreats Dominicans who enter their country illegally, contrary to what Dominicans living in Puerto Rico say. Balaguer emphasized that Haitians who are living illegally in the Dominican Republic will be repatriated, while promising not to create problems with the Haitian Government. [passage omitted]

President Balaguer declared that the Dominican Republic Government has every right to repatriate Haitians or anyone else. [passage omitted]

Troops Continue Detention of Illegal Haitians

FL2106160691 Santo Domingo Cadena de Noticias in Spanish 0930 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] Military troops continue to detain Haitian citizens, most of whom work on State Sugar Council plantations. Among those being held are women and peddlars.

This operation is the result of Decree 233/91, issued by President Balaguer, to concentrate more on cane plantations located close to Santo Domingo and the eastern region.

More than 100 Haitians, mostly youths, have been detained in the past few hours. A government commission will return those being held to their native country this weekend. They will be handed over to Haitian authorities at the border.

One Shot, Vehicles Damaged in Barahona Violence

FL2006172891 Santo Domingo Cadena de Noticias in Spanish 1600 GMT 20 Jun 91

[Text] One youth was shot and many vehicles were stoned and left with shattered windows in Barahona during disturbances that occurred in the course of the labor stoppage called by the Collective of Peoples' Organizations. According to our Cadena de Noticias correspondent, Luis Lopez Mendes, the stoppage in the southwestern region reached a level of 80 percent in Barahona. Hundreds of people, many of them hooded, marched through the streets, burned tires, and chanted slogans against the government.

The young man who was shot was identified as 23-year-old Rafael Vargas. He was treated at a local clinic. Police agents on patrol in the city have detained many demonstrators.

Before the beginning of the stoppage, unknown persons set fire to one bus that was transporting workers from the salt and chalk mines.

Haiti

Aristide Meets With Unemployed People 18 Jun

FL2006175691 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 2100 GMT 19 Jun 91

[Text] On 18 June, at the National Palace, President Jean-Bertrand Aristide received a large number of unemployed people and Operation Storm Wind union leaders. This meeting addressed the unemployment problem and the removal of macoutes from public office. The president gave his word to set conditions in order to reduce unemployment and to make significant reforms in the administration.

[Begin Aristide recording] Sixteen millions who worked in the field, who worked hard so the industries could overflow, should not have to go and ask for favors

to get work, as if they do not have the right to work. We clearly said that. It is not right that a staunch militant, a member of an open organization—I am not talking of organizations that are not open, I am talking about open organizations—these militants should not be found behaving as dogs, begging at people's feet in order to obtain work. [applause]

We said it very clearly. This is why we asked that there be resumes. This is a paper indicating the name of the person, what he has studied, what he can do, and where he thinks he can best serve his country. It is possible that as early as tomorrow—if you wish—we can make an appointment at a given place. We can meet as separate commissions. A given commission can work on a given ministry and if it feels it can, this commission may say: Yes, in said ministry this person has done certain things and is therefore considered a macoute who must not be there. You must verify, however, what has been said so that you do not fall among people who make accusations without evidence. At that time, we would not continue to talk without acting. [end recording]

During the National Palace meeting, the Operation Storm Wind people, in particular Jean-Auguste Mesyeux and Idlie Cameau, announced with great pomp and ceremony that the force of the wind has calmed and that they are awaiting results.

The presence of Jean-Auguste Mesyeux beside President Aristide yesterday dispels the rumor that the National Palace yard is forbidden to the leader of the Autonomous Organization of Haitian Workers, Jean-Auguste Mesyeux, who HAITI-PROGRES continues to refer to as a dangerous person to the lavalas government.

Aristide Condemns Violence; Asks for Help

FL2206020691 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, for more than three hours on Radio Antilles International on 20 June, urged the wealthy to participate in the country's development, and firmly asked that blood stop being shed in Artibonite. It was on the popular "Free Forum" program, during which many listeners from different parts of the country called to give their opinions. Let us listen first to President Jean-Bertrand Aristide on land problems in Artibonite.

[Begin Aristide recording] [passage omitted] On 7 February I asked that no drop of blood flow in the country. Today, we must acknowledge that blood has flowed in Artibonite because of the matter of land. I am telling everyone who is listening to me now in Artibonite: Lay down your machete, or axe or whatever you are working the land. Do not use the tool you have in your hands to kill somebody. No matter whether you are civilians or military men, cease. Do not let land conflicts make you kill one another. The government knows its responsibilities and the governr :nt will assume its responsibilities by correcting these land conflicts. [passage omitted] [end recording]

On the same occasion, Father Aristide asked the political powers, civilians as well as military men, to help each other so that those who have the economic power will participate in creating jobs for the people. [passage omitted]

Second Palace Meeting Draws 5,000 Unemployed

FL2106230791 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 20 Jun 91

[Excerpts] On 19 June, several hundred unemployed citizens met again on the grounds of the National Palace to listen to the prime minister outline government plans to provide jobs and initiate reforms in public administration. [passage omitted]

Information Minister Marie-Laurence Jocelyn Lassegue provided further explanations on this meeting last evening on National Television of Haiti. She announced further meetings, as well as a congress to generate discussion of the problems in administration and to create jobs.

[Begin Lassegue recording] [words indistinct] to discuss the problem of demacoutization in the country in general, and especially in public office, public administration. Another problem that many people are facing is the high cost of living, which is directly linked to the unemployment problem.

After the meeting yesterday between the president of the country and the nearly 200 people who attended, the president formally committed to providing these 200 people with jobs. The meeting that was held today was to be a continuation of these two themes, demacoutisation and unemployment. We were expecting 200 to 250 people at the National Palace, but nearly 5,000 showed up.

Obviously, the meeting did not unfold the way it was expected to, but we did not consider this a problem because, as you just saw in the report, this provided many people with an opportunity for dialogue and for meeting one another. The speakers expressed the feelings of many people, and gave others a chance to share their thoughts. Obviously, other meetings need to be held, especially on the themes of demacoutization and the unemployment problem. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Leaders Say Operation Storm Wind To Continue

FL2706170691 Port-au-Prince Radio Plus in Creole 2100 GMT 26 Jun 91

[Excerpts] Jean-Auguste Mesyeux, the leader of Operation Wind Storm, and his supporters held a press conference today to further explain the operation, which they say includes several associations fighting for change

in the country, particularly in state administration. Those holding the conference explained that Operation Wind Storm will not stop as long as public administration is loaded with macoutes. There have been no agricultural reforms; the cost of living is still high; prices have not dropped. The leader of Operation Wind Storm believes that the ministerial cabinet should resign. Let us listen to a statement by a representatative of Operation Storm Wind. Our reporter Hugens Voltaire stands by.

[Begin unidentified man recording] [passage omitted] Operation Storm Wind is going at 280 thousand per hour [as heard] in the wake of the huge demonstration we held to demand the resignation of the Preval cabinet. [passage omitted] It was weakness in the government that turned the state offices into military barracks, with heavy weapons, on 17 June.

We realized that Cabinet head is more sensitive toward macoutes in public administration than he is toward the masses who are suffering all kinds of black misery. For all of these reasons, Operation Storm Wind remains steadfast in its purpose: to force the resignation of the ministerial cabinet.

Deputies and Senators must be consistent in their responsibilities and apply Article 172 of the Constitution. On 18 June, after the demonstration, President Aristide sent an official delegation to meet with the high staff of Operation Storm Wind. The position of the high staff of the operation was as clear as coconut water: complete resignation of the ministerial cabinet. We are still negotiating with President Aristide, but we are not negotiating for jobs; we are negotiating in the interest of the masses.

Operation Storm Wind will not stop as long as the public administration is loaded with macoutes and the high cost of living continues. There must be an agricultural reform policy. The literacy project must not become a joke. There must be 25 gourdes, and training, for workers. Decentralization must really take place. Youth must participate in the country's political life.

I am not fighting against international plots. Haiti will not become Chile. Aristide will not be Allende. 1973 is not 1991. No matter what, Aristide will be in office for five years. [end recording].

FMR Condemns Government; Reports Macoute Plot

FL2506220491 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 2300 GMT 16 Jun 91

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] During a news conference on 16 June, the executive committee of the United Workers Front [FMR], said the Preval government should resign if it cannot lead the country. According to FMR, the Preval government has completely failed during the time it has been in power. It has failed in the areas of justice, the economy, agriculture, and international relations.

On the subject of justice, FMR asks that all terrorist macoutes, zenglendos, and putschists who participated in the attempted coup of 7 June [date as heard] be tried, and that proper measures be taken for the administration of justice to these common criminals. Regarding the economy, they ask that the fluctuation of the dollar be fought. FMR expresses surprise, concerning agriculture, that the government has never responded to their register of demands suggesting that land, technical materials, tractors, and fertilizers be given to the peasants, and that their lands be reforested.

This organization asks for the dismissal of Mrs. Gladys Lauture who they believe exerts an important influence over Haiti's internal decisions. On the subject of international relations, they ask that Haiti establish relations with all foreign countries, especially Libya and Cuba. On this score, they accuse the Chamber of Senators and Deputies of accepting money from the U.S. Embassy and other organisations to oppose diplomatic relations with other countries.

Finally, they discussed security, referring to a macoute plot that is under way. They cited as evidence the unloading on 26 May of shipments of weapons and drums of pictachios into 26 jeeps and two Range Rovers in Savanne Pistache. They also reported the off-loading of weapons in Cap-Haiten, Mole Saint-Nicolas, and in the southern part of the country.

They asked the government not to waste the people's money on a fake literacy program.

Executive Appointments Decreed Unconstitutional

FL2106002291 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 20 Jun 91

[Excerpts] The Senate of the Republic adopted a resolution on 19 June in which it decrees that appointments made to the Court of Cassation, and the appointment of Haitian ambassadors to France, the United States, Canada, and the Dominican Republic are unconstitutional. This resolution was approved by 14 senators; one senator opposed, and another abstained from voting. The resolution was adopted after much debate. According to the same resolution, the Senate will study the files of those people chosen by the executive, and whose names have been submitted to the Senate for approval as Haitian ambassadors abroad, according to Senator Rony Mondestin.

[Begin Mondestin recording] [passage omitted] The president and the prime minister, who had negotiated with the Senate for two days at the Christopher Hotel, did not want to take the responsibility of a compromise. The new resolution clearly states: The Senate of the Republic does not acknowledge the judges of the Court of Cassation and their appointments are null and void. The appointments made in the diplomatic sector are null and void. However, we will study the files of the people that the executive intends to appoint to certain diplomatic posts and to the positions that are now vacant at the Court of Cassation.

Meanwhile, we are expecting the executive to provide us with the files of those who have been illegally, unconstitutionally appointed. [end recording] [passage omitted]

In a letter to the Senate, Foreign Affairs Minister Marie-Denise Fabien Jean-Louis proposed Jean-Robert Sabalat as Haitian ambassador to France and the Vatican; Jean Casimir as ambassador to the United States; Emmanuel Ambroise as ambassador to Canada; Guy Alexandre as ambassador to the Dominican Republic; Sony Seraphin as ambassador to China, Japan, and South Korea; and Yvonne Desmangles as vice consul general in French Guiana.

The executive is willing to compromise, but the senators are adamant: all ambassadors to be appointed must first be proposed to Parliament.

Jamaica

Germany Reschedules $62.5 Million Debt

FL2006121991 Bridgetown CANA in English 1938 GMT 19 Jun 91

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, June 19, CANA—The German Government has rescheduled a U.S. 62.5 million dollar debt owed by Jamaica. Under an agreement signed here, the loan is to be repaid in 10 equal six-monthly installments at 4.5 per cent interest beginning February 1996 and ending in August 2000.

The loans were part of the former West Germany's assistance for infrastructural development, agriculture, and disaster and flood damage projects.

The rescheduling results from an agreement reached in April last year between the government of Jamaica and the Paris Club. German Ambassador Dr. Nils Grueber said the agreement is intended to help Jamaica during the present period of economic restructuring and reform which "will certainly lead to a stabilisation and strengthening of the Jamaican economy."

St. Christopher and Nevis

Simmonds Defends OECS Membership Decision

FL2106020591 Bridgetown CANA in English 2104 GMT 20 Jun 91

[Text] St. George's, Grenada, June 20, CANA—Prime Minister Kennedy Simmonds of St. Kitts and Nevis has defended his government's decision to opt out of a proposed political union involving members of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States [OECS].

"The reality is that despite the many things our nations have in common, and despite the high degree of cohesiveness achieved, our people have different experiences and as such have different perspectives on the integration process," he said.

However, he reported that consultation with the people of the twin island federation had indicated there was "overwhelming support" for the deepening of regional integration and economic cooperation through the strengthening of the OECS.

"We are confident that the continued interaction of our people and the strengthening of relationships between our various countries within the OECS and Caricom [Caribbean Common Market] will lead to further deepening of the integration process," Dr. Simmonds said.

Four of the seven OECS members—Grenada, St. Vincent, Dominica, and St. Lucia—are preparing for a political union. Dr. Simmonds said there were other avenues open to the smaller countries of the OECS to develop interdependence and united approaches to development outside of a political union. He called for the acceleration of regional integration which he described as "an imperative " for the region's future growth "and perhaps even survival." He recommended the pooling of resources within the region in a bid to face the economic problems which develop in the international community.

"The carving up of the world into huge trading blocs and the contraction in the volume of international aid flows will create monumental problems for micro states such as the OECS," Dr. Simmonds said. However, he said that the emergence of trading blocs would also present opportunities which the region must exploit.

"This requires that we grasp the opportunities available to us, that we vigorously [follow] the path of enhanced economic integration and functional cooperation," he said.

El Salvador

Talks End With Advances But Without Agreements

PA2406135191 Paris AFP in Spanish 0459 GMT 23 Jun 91

[Text] Queretaro, Mexico, Jun 22 (AFP)—UN Mediator Alvaro De Soto has reported that the round of peace negotiations between the Salvadoran guerrillas and government ended in Queretaro today, and that advancements have been made but no formal agreements reached.

The diplomat added that the talks, which started on 16 June, had not been a failure but rather "useful and fruitful. I do not want to raise expectations or discourage the Salvadoran people."

The mediator did not detail the advances made and said the dialogue would continue in the next round of talks. However, he did not reveal the date or place where the next peace negotiations are to be held.

Separately, the two contending parties pointed out that there had been advances during the talks that ended today, but blamed each other for presenting different positions on the Armed Forces and the cease-fire issues, which prevented reaching swift agreements.

Presidency Minister Oscar Santamaria asserted: "Objectively, we know the meeting had positive results, but we are not satisfied" with the achievements at the meeting held in Queretaro, 200 km to the north of Mexico City.

He asserted that the advancements were blocked because the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) had presented points that had already been discussed, such as the future of the Armed Forces, and had also added new points, such as the socioeconomic issue.

FMLN Commander Leonel Gonzalez said it was difficult to expect a global agreement from this round of talks, but that advancements had been made during the seven-day meeting that would allow them to speed up the Armed Forces debates.

Gonzalez added that the delicate topics included in the agenda and the government's insistence on "seeing us disarmed" before reaching political agreements did not allow agreements to be reached quickly.

FMLN General Command member Shafik Handal admitted that important advancements on the Armed Forces and the cease-fire issues had been made during this round of negotiations.

In regard to the Armed Forces, Handal added that the dissolution of the security corps and the creation of a national civil police corps had been discussed.

Rebel Bulletin on Reports of FMLN Division

PA2106192491 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] Good evening, Radio Farabundo Marti listeners. We now have an update on what is going on in Queretaro, Mexico, where the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] and government delegations are meeting for the fifth day. Statements were issued both yesterday and today on possible agreements about the Armed Forces issue. Commander Shafik Handal said that a purge of the Armed Forces and a new civilian police corps subordinate to the civilian government are essential issues that must be settled, because they will affect the results of the negotiations.

Commander Ana Guadalupe Martinez said that the problem about the Armed Forces and militarism in El Salvador is being discussed in depth at the Queretaro meeting, which is expected, as we said earlier, to result in substantial agreements on the Armed Forces issue. For example, the participants are discussing the need to reorganize the Armed Forces even though the government delegation is creating obstacles and problems.

Radio Farabundo Marti listeners, this afternoon we received a news bulletin from the FMLN in Queretaro. The text of the bulletin states:

In its 20 June 1991 edition, the Salvadoran newspaper LA PRENSA GRAFICA published a report quoting the UN special envoy, who said that the most important newspapers and radio and television stations have published articles stating that the division in the FMLN represents one of the most difficult obstacles to the signing of a cease-fire agreement.

Given this situation, the FMLN states the following:

1. The Mexican media's 20 June editions failed to include the statements issued by Dr. Oscar Santamaria about the alleged division in the FMLN, and they also failed to comment on this. In fact, the media have been reporting on the meeting with responsibility and objectivity, and publishing the participants' different views and statements.

2. We believe that the person responsible for the note shows a lack of respect, and he has adopted a rash attitude by trying to involve the Mexican media in the psychological war plans which are endorsed by LA PRENSA GRAFICA.

3. It is suspicious that problems, allegedly created by the FMLN, have reportedly started to appear after giving the impression that there were great possibilities of reaching an agreement. This is a new campaign fabricated in the Armed Forces' psychological warfare office, with the intention of clearing its name and blaming the FMLN for blocking the talks.

Queretaro, Mexico, 20 June 1991.

FMLN Members Deny Internal Division

PA2306223491 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 22 Jun 91 p 19

[Report by Elsia Lizama]

[Text] Queretaro, Mexico, 21 June—There is no division within the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front], but we do discuss internal matters as part of the "democratization" effort to support the decisions of its negotiating delegation.

Lorena Pena, a member of the FMLN Political Committee, has made remarks to explain a report published by this newspaper in which its author mentioned "internal divisions" within the FMLN.

The FMLN was prompted to explain the misunderstanding in a press bulletin that was handed to all foreign correspondents staying at the Real de Minas Hotel, where the talks are being held. The FMLN response is based on remarks by Commander Jeronimo, which this newspaper did not carry. His statements, however, were given wide coverage by Mexican newspapers EXCELSIOR and NOVEDADES in their 18 June editions.

Lorena Pena denied that there are divisions within the FMLN and added that "seeing the FMLN divided is a old government dream." Pena noted that it is the government that is facing a split, and, by way of example, mentioned that the "Anticommunist Front and the Crusade for Peace and Work have condemned the decisions made by the government delegation."

The rebels' delegate said that the FMLN as a whole has endorsed the decisions by its negotiating commission.

The explanatory note stated that "it is suspicious that after the impression that an agreement is very possible was fostered, the reports of alleged difficulties caused by the FMLN begin to appear. This is a campaign orchestrated in the Salvadoran Armed Forces' psychological warfare office for the purpose of protecting their image and accusing the FMLN of being an obstacle."

The aforementioned report did not include this part concerning some of the remarks made by the FMLN commander: "Jeronimo, states a heated debate is taking place among several FMLN commanders of troops who are reluctant to get into the political electoral struggle." The commander adds that "there are FMLN sectors with an orthodox revolutionary view that continue to advocate taking power by means off an armed conflict."

According to Jeronimo, it is clear to the FMLN that after 10 years of war that a military victory for its guerrillas is not possible and that is why a strategy was designed to seek a political victory, "assuming that power is not determined by the government."

The guerrilla commander admitted, "however, that there are differences within the FMLN over this because there is a group that intends to continue to be the real power, without the need to be the government, and another group that believes that it is most important to govern to attain formal power. The texts within quotation marks are parts of statements by Commander Jeronimo published by those two Mexican newspapers, which quote the AFP, Reuter, EFE, and AP wire services.

The FMLN complaint against this newspaper was described as "a tantrum" by a government delegate and said "there could be problems within the FMLN that could prevent 'landing' an agreement."

Lastly, this envoy wishes to summarize that just now, when Salvadoran society is on the verge of peace, the FMLN should be preparing for this irreversible conversion from armed struggle to political struggle. The political struggle is the phase that intrinsically leads us to debate things; to accept criticism or the questioning of ideas that here or in any civilized country are elements that—together with respect for all of man's rights—make ideological pluralism effective, which constitutes the true essence of democracy, which all Salvadorans are bent on building.

FMLN Command Lauds END's High Morale

PA2406014891 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0015 GMT 24 Jun 91

[Communique issued by the General Command of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, on 22 June—place not given]

[Text] Message from the FMLN General Command to the chiefs and fighters of the National Army for Democracy [END]:

The FMLN General Command and the END Joint Chiefs of Staff are conveying to our fighters, commanders, and chiefs, our recognition for their technical and military capabilities and daring and the profound political content of the successful operations and military maneuvers that have been carried out.

The high fighting capabilities of our military units serve to defeat the military plans of the bloodthirsty Army, by facing up to the Salvadoran Armed Forces' repressive and brutal escalation against civilians. The number of arrests and beatings and the eviction of landless peasants is on the rise. Our army constitutes a hope in the defense of the rights of peasants and civilian society in general. The same military capability is dashing the illusive plans of the fascist sectors in the Army's top command and the oligarchic ultraright of resolving the conflict by military means by snatching away the territories under our control, in which our people enjoy conditions of economic and social justice.

In this respect, our END expresses its highest morale and combat readiness, responding to the plans of aggression of the undemocratic Army, putting up a firm front along strategic highways, and carrying out offensive operations in urban areas. We make note of the operation our units

carried out in the Mariona Jail. Our fighters and chiefs, in a flawless display of our infiltration technique and excellent coordination inside and outside the jail, achieved all our objectives of liberating our political prisoners, including Commander Ramon Suarez.

Besides constituting a demonstration of its high technical capabilities, this operation shows the END's sensibility to the problems affecting our people, since the Cristiani jails house hundreds of political prisoners who were unlawfully arrested, thus corroborating the correctness of the operation.

The FMLN General Command conveys its congratulations, especially to the END chiefs and units, as well as to the fighters who successfully carried out the operation in the Mariona Jail.

Every chief and fighter knows his mission is not to yield a single inch of the territories under our control, to be ready to continue defeating the plans of aggression of the Armed Forces' top command.

Our defensive [station announcer corrects himself] offensive military power, combined with the high political commitment of reaching political agreements at the negotiating table, will make 1991 the year the construction of a firm and lasting peace for El Salvador begins.

[Signed] FMLN General Command, 22 June 1991

Rebel Radio Comments on Defeat of Militarism

PA2106195491 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Station commentary: "Dinosaur or Force of the Future"]

[Text] After the changes in Eastern Europe, the Salvadoran generals said that the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front had only six months to live, although we were neither wounded nor sick. However, as time went by, it became obvious that the movement that is actually dying is the dictatorial and murderous militarism.

The Salvadoran people's struggle has today the vitality, freshness, and authenticity of everything that is ours, because it is driven by the force of the future, the democratic revolution.

The fact that our struggle has gathered such force that we have compelled the United States itself to accept the negotiation while many thought they would use the cudgel is an unprecedented act. The United States has cut or frozen the military aid to the dinosaurs of the High Command.

We are pushing history toward victory, a victory that is the transformation of society, making the dreams of our heroes and martyrs true through sheer heroism.

They said that touching the Armed Forces in El Salvador was a fantasy, but after 10 years of militarily defeating it, we are touching it. At this precise moment, through negotiations, we are advancing toward a purge, a demilitarization, and the disappearance of the dark forces such as the Treasury Police, National Police, and National Guard, as well as the Jesuit-murdering battalions.

It was believed that the possibility of the people's movement taking over the streets again after the fascist terror was a fantasy. It was believed that the political opportunities being opened up so that independent journalism could express its truth or a bishop could preach his word from Msgr. Romero's pulpit was a fantasy, but we will continue to open up those political opportunities with our people's social struggle. It was believed that reforming the Constitution was a dream, but we have already achieved it. We have achieved it in order to transform society, because, at this rate, the people are beginning to rule from the trenches, from territories under FMLN control, from the plane of a revolutionary conscience, a revolutionary conscience that expands in society and will be strengthened as a result of the great political battle that we will win with as much impetus, dash, and creativity as we have had on other battlefields.

We have started ruling from the trenches because to rule is to transform. We are the force of the future. We are transformation. We are the guarantee of lands for peasants, schools for illiterate children, health for those who never had it. We are the saviors of our cultural identity. We are the future, and we are building for the future with our blood, perseverance, and high morale, which gives us life to defeat the prehistoric militarism, to defeat death.

Anticommunist Front Threatens FMLN-FDR Relatives

PA2206042891 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 20 Jun 91 p 12

[Communique issued by the Salvadoran Anticommunist Front; place and date—paragraphing and quotation marks as published]

[Text] We have received the following communique: "We, the Salvadoran Anticommunist Front, in view of the fact that the government, as well as the Armed Forces, are tied hand and foot by a strategic human rights agreement imposed by the international mercenaries and which only works in favor of the terrorists, but not for the majority of the Salvadorans, hereby state:

"That El Salvador belongs to Salvadorans. "To the CIA, the government, the internationalist organizations, and Fidel Castro's servants (FMNL-FDR) [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front-Revolutionary Democratic Front], that we Salvadorans are sick and tired of your treacherous demagogy and your publicity shows.

"That the Salvadoran people have the right to defend themselves against bloody terrorist attacks.

"That the Salvadoran Anticommunist Front, facing a communist military offensive intended to continue subjecting our people to more death and mutilations,

reserves the right to act without mercy against the relatives of the terrorist commanders and the leaders of front organizations who live within our sovereign territory. 1991 Year of the Truth."

Military Said Behind 'Anticommunist Front'

PA2106163391 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 19 Jun 91

[Station commentary: "The Mask of the High Command"]

[Text] It is no accident that coinciding with the peace negotiations under way in Queretaro, Mexico, the military high command pulls from its sleeve the Salvadoran Anticommunist Front threats. The staunch anticommunist phantom is the embodiment of the military's crisis and its serious incapacity to face the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front and the country's forces with reason in a cease-fire.

It was not enough for La Tandona [reference to the 1966 graduating class of the Captain General Gerardo Barrios Military Academy] officers that Coprefa [Armed Forces Press Committee], Radio Cuscatlan, and Army communiques inflict the repugnant war and psychological warfare upon the country's forces and their families. General Rene Emilio Ponce himself said that the special operation carried out against Captain Lopez Aviles was a provocation against the Armed Forces. Today, the Anticommunist Front's communique confirms the military's reaction.

Despite this, the new public threat by the death squads, who are part of the Armed Forces High Command, carries more weight than all of the unavoidable agreements at the negotiating table and the acknowledgement that the FMLN has a national army, that it controls territories, and that it represents the interests of a broad spectrum of the Salvadoran population. These are the realities which the FMLN will never abandon because they have already been fought and won, despite 15 years of killings in the countryside and in the cities. We are therefore a force that, in the future, with or without arms and either at war or at peace, has the capacity to obtain the people's active political support for national changes. This is why, with the mask of the Anticommunist Front, the High Command today intends to squash not the FMLN, but the discontented social forces that have defied the daily institutional repression.

Gen. Ponce could not hide the fact that at the end of the death squad threats, society found his fingerprints, which are the same fingerprints that were found on the 45 UN (?case) documents dealing with the Armed Forces. The military system and military impunity are in the last stages of crisis, and the negotiations are an admission of the existence of another emerging power that is encouraging the country's democratic reforms. If the negotiations are to move ahead, President Cristiani must carry the burden of responsibility of investigating without delay the leadership of the Armed Forces and the Arena [Nationalist Republican Alliance], so this Anticommunist Front does not prevent the Queretaro talks from yielding peace agreements that satisfy the whole country.

Communique Reacts to Killing of END Captain

PA2406005991 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0003 GMT 24 Jun 91

[Communique issued by the National Army for Democracy, END, in Cacahuatique; date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] 1. At 0600 on 22 June, commando units of Military Detachment No. 4 assassinated National Army for Democracy [END] Captain Ernesto Luna Marquez, alias Genovelio, a native of the hamlet of Los Quebrachos, Jocoaitique Jurisdiction. This assassination occurred in Garzon, Guatajiagua Jurisdiction, Morazan Department, while Companero Genovelio was on leave visiting his family.

2. This companero was not carrying a weapon. He was dressed in civilian clothes and was riddled with bullets as he stood with his relatives—six-, three-, and two-year-old children. After he was assassinated, he was stripped of his belongings, including his watch, a gold chain, a dental bridge, and cash.

3. The home of Mrs. Ana Julia Portillo was looted and she was threatened with death if she did not turn over weapons that were allegedly there.

4. This demonstrates, once again, how the Geneva agreements with regard to respect for human rights, have been violated by the Armed Forces.

5. We warn the Armed Forces that every case of a human rights violation will receive an appropriate response from the END. Assassins will be punished.

Companero Genovelio, until victory always.

Guatemala

URNG-Government Talks End Without Agreement

PA2306212691 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0046 GMT 23 Jun 91

[Text] Cuernavaca, Mexico 22 Jun (EFE)—The dialogue the government and the Guatemalan guerrillas have maintained since 17 June in Cuernavaca ended today without specific agreements. Both parties, however, have agreed to continue in July with the talks intended to end 30 years of undeclared war. Representatives of the government of President Jorge Serrano Elias and the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) met for six days in Cuernavaca, 85 km southwest of Mexico City.

This is the second round of talks, comprised of several organizations, between the government and the URNG

that have taken place in Mexico, under the mediation of Msgr. Rodolfo Quezada Toruno, president of the National Reconciliation Commission (CNR).

The dialogue between the government and the Guatemalan guerrillas began on 17 June and lasted until today, when the parties failed to discuss in greater detail the democratization process and human rights, government spokesman Gonzalo Asturias has reported.

In addition, Asturias said today that the date for the conclusion of this round of talks, which has been affected by government accusations concerning the distribution in Cuernavaca of a leaflet written by the URNG, has not yet been set.

The leaflet reported on military activities by the URNG in Guatemalan territory, as well as its alleged accomplishments, Asturias stated. He stated that this action was intended as propaganda, adding that this report violated the rules of respect and responsibility that were outlined during these peace talks.

With regard to the distribution of the aforementioned leaflet, the URNG issued a communique denying the existence of obstacles or particular attitudes that would tend to block the negotiations.

"The URNG General Command has confirmed that the talks and negotiations took place amid an atmosphere of normalcy, without particular attitudes for blocking them," the URNG communique stated.

One source close to the conversations, who was questioned by EFE, said that during the fifth day of meetings on 21 June, Amilcar Burgos, an adviser to President Serrano, had placed obstacles to the conversations by systematically rejecting the proposal presented by the URNG.

Asturias reiterated that the distribution of the leaflet in Cuernavaca was considered an action that altered the atmosphere of mutual respect that existed during the dialogue.

"The leaflet, which was distributed to the press, reported on false military events in Guatemalan territory, armed actions by the URNG, and alleged accomplishments in its favor," Asturias noted.

"It is inappropriate to brag about bloody incidents amid an atmosphere in which the desire for peace should prevail," Asturias stated.

After the end of this round of negotiations, Msgr. Quezada Toruno voiced his optimism about "certain progress in the talks that has been achieved thus far."

The delegations of the URNG, the government, and the CNR, which were joined by the UN observer Fraces Vendrell, did not report the date or place for holding the next round of talks.

Health Minister Receives Repeated Death Threats

PA2106180891 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 20 Jun 91 p 4

[Text] Miguel Angel Montepeque, minister of public health and social welfare, reiterated yesterday that he is still receiving death threats by telephone.

These intimidatory actions are allegedly perpetrated by groups or individuals who endorse corruption and are opposed to health improvements that would benefit the ailing population, Montepeque said.

On various occasions, he added, he has received harassing telephone calls at the ministry and at home, to which he attached no importance because, he said, he is doing the job which President Serrano Elias entrusted him in an honest, straightforward, and dynamic manner.

"I will not allow corruption at the ministry, and anyone who attempts to appropriate hospital property to the detriment of the ailing population will be dealt with harshly," Montepeque concluded.

Honduras

Callejas on Human Rights Situation, Other Issues

PA2206232591 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 21 Jun 91 p 3

[Report by Adelmo Argueta]

[Text] San Pedro Sula—President Rafael Leonardo Callejas has said that he has "a bitter taste in his mouth" because of the "negative and pessimistic assessments" made by Americas Watch and Amnesty International with regard to the status of human rights in Honduras. "It would seem as if they want to see forced disappearances in Honduras, but this will not happen during my administration," the president said.

"I am proud to say that there have been no forced disappearances during my administration," he said, and then criticized the "complex language" used by the aforementioned international bodies. He said that they start by saying: "Despite the fact that there have been no forced disappearances in Honduras, human rights continue to be violated."

Such Negative Language!

In response to this Callejas said: "I have never seen such negative language...it is as if they wanted people to disappear. I have a very bad taste in my mouth, because the government has done some positive things, which is not to say that there have been human rights violations. [sentence as published]

"Honduran society is a complex society in its formative stage. There is poverty. There are social problems. At times there are individual abuses of power on the part of

certain sectors. I repeat, however, that what caught my attention was the form of expression used by those organizations."

The president asked: What do I understand this to mean? He then answered himself: "That they want people to turn up missing during my administration, and that will not happen. That was a campaign promise. We are a pluralistic, open society, and I think those people have taken a relatively negative position with regard to the positive aspects of what the government has done."

"I have reviewed news reports over the past few months and did not find a single report of human rights violations. I did not find any reports of torture or disappearances, something that the media has reported in the past and that greatly helped to ensure respect for human rights," the president said.

However, he acknowledged that "there are many reports of other things, such as telephoned death threats to various people, even a cartoonist. There are dramatic cases, such as the attempt to murder a former member of the Cinchonero People's Liberation Movement who is now hospitalized. That is not mentioned."

"Therefore, in this regard, we will continue our policy of respecting human rights. We have invited the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva to come to Honduras so that we can carry out investigations jointly, because we Hondurans wish there to be no violations of civil rights," the president said.

Reorganization of the DIN [Department of National Investigation]

The president feels that Amnesty International and Americas Watch should have said that there are no longer forced disappearances in Honduras, although there are still some human rights violations.

"Those organizations should not take a negative attitude, and I truly feel that they have. My government will continue to respect human rights and to investigate charges and complex situations," the president said.

The president said: "We are in the process of restructuring the DIN. I communicate constantly with high-ranking Armed Forces officers and we are aware that a policy of respect for human rights is being promoted in the country."

There Will Be No Increase in Fuel Prices

With regard to the presidents' meeting in San Salvador in July, President Callejas said that his participation will be directed toward signing multilateral free trade treaties and promoting Central American integration in all areas.

In addition, the president said "there will be no increase in fuel prices." He quoted the economy minister as having said that "a mechanism is being established so that a drop in prices abroad is reflected by a drop in prices in Honduras; thus, a price drop abroad would mean we would reduce prices to the consumer," and that the same thing would occur in reverse if the price of crude rises on the international market.

With regard to the statement made by former Tela Judge Miguel Angel Izaguirre Fiallos that the military rules over the civilian government in Honduras, Callejas said emphatically: "He is completely mistaken."

Cementos de Honduras and Rosenthal

The president was told that presidential hopeful Jaime Rosenthal has said that government officials do not want Honduran investors to keep the cement factory (Cementos de Honduras), and that the president is being misguided and misinformed.

He said in reply: "The privatization of Cementos was accomplished through public bidding. A U.S.-Venezuelan group is involved. I have a personal letter from Jaime Rosenthal and Dr. Paul Vinelli, in which they state that if no agreement is reached with the Ampac group and the Venezuelans, they would be prepared to make an offer."

"What I can see from the letter is that they (Rosenthal and Vinelli) realize that first the negotiating process with Ampac must be concluded before we can proceed with negotiations with the Honduran group," the president said, adding: "I told them that and I hope we can sell Cementos de Honduras."

In response to a reporter's question, the president called Rosenthal Olivar to "ask for the groups' (Venezuelan-U.S.) references and, as a favor to the Honduran people, rate them favorably or unfavorably."

INA [National Agrarian Institute] Will Not Disappear

The president stated that the National Party of Honduras [PNH] is united with the government and the president of the Republic," [no beginning quotation marks as published]. Callejas added: "The government party will win the elections again if the government's economic policies are good and bring positive prospects for the Honduran people," if not, "the opposition will win the elections." He also revealed that his candidate "will be the one chosen by the PNH grass roots."

Callejas said that there were no plans to bury the INA: "We have already given the government's fixed position in this respect—we will continue to support the agrarian reform."

The president added that he did not have any information or reports on PNH sectors requesting that San Pedro Sula Mayor Hector Guillen be fired. "This is not included in the law. Thus, the mayor will continue at his post as long as he wants, within the constitutional mandate." Callejas ended.

Nicaragua

Ortega Accuses Right-Wing of Seeking Instability

PA2206020691 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0330 GMT 21 Jun 91

[From the independent "Extravision" newscast, directed by Manuel Espinoza, former information minister during the Ortega administration]

[Text] The commitments and political agreements to attain peace and stability in the country are in jeopardy, and that is why the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] and the government are holding talks, in a effort to keep right-wing sectors from sabotaging these agreements. Meanwhile, the people must keep constantly on the move, Commander Daniel Ortega said today in Leon, to publicly report on the talks he has held with Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo.

[Begin Ortega recording] This morning I have a meeting scheduled for 0800. It is very clear an operation has been orchestrated to foil the efforts the government and the FSLN have been undertaking to work for Nicaragua's stability. Right-wing sectors want to sabotage those effort. They want to destroy the agreements reached. They want to destroy the process of concerted agreement in which the FSLN, UNAG [National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen], and CONATI [expansion unknown] have been playing a very constructive role.

The purpose is to attack the right of the Nicaraguan people to a piece of bread and a little stability. The purpose is to destabilize and topple the government to install a government of vengeful persons who think that if they ask the yankees for help the people will be intimidated. We had a long talk and reached the conclusion that the government as well as the FSLN want to make the utmost effort to seek a way to solve the crisis provoked by vengeful persons in the National Assembly. We are going to work in that direction. The FSLN National Directorate will strive for stability, but with people who are on the move, not asleep or lying down.

Give unto the people that which belongs to the people, because the people have earned it. Give the people land, housing, and work. Give the people liberation. Viva the people of Leon! [Crowd shouts: "Viva!"] [end recording]

Ortega To Attend Meeting With Former Contras

PA2306234091 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2127 GMT 23 Jun 91

[Text] Managua, 23 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Former Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega said today that the social conflict that ensued following the occupation of two Managua municipality offices, which began early on the morning of 18 June, could end tomorrow. Ortega added that, as a result of talks with influential Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo, negotiations will begin on 24 June between the pro-Sandinist Front for the People's Struggle and the government to resolve social problems.

The Sandinist leader voiced his support for a negotiated solution to the problems that have emerged following the occupation of Radio Corporacion and several municipalities, as well as the attacks on progovernment deputies.

The takeovers were carried out to protest the National Assembly's decision to accept a bill to repeal two laws that handed over to the Sandinists properties seized during the past regime. The laws were enacted by the previous administration within the time span between the Sandinists' electoral defeat and the swearing-in of Mrs. Violeta Barrios de Chamorro 25 April 1990.

Ortega announced that he will attend the meeting with a group of former contras, at the invitation of the security commission that was established after 22,500 fighters of the defunct Nicaraguan Resistance disbanded.

At that meeting, the security commission, comprised of former contras, the government, and the Army, will ask the former president if he cares about the stability of the country.

Ortega made his remarks after placing a wreath at the mausoleum of Carlos Fonseca, founder of the now opposition Sandinist National Liberation Front, on the occasion of Fonseca's 55th birthday.

UNO Reiterates Unity, Condemns FSLN Actions

PA2206003291 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2307 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Communique issued by the National Opposition Union in Managua on 20 June—read by announcer]

[Text] Aware of the commitment we made to the people during the electoral campaign to make a change in Nicaragua by offering them a government program that we promised to fulfill, and concerned about the constant violations of the program throughout the year and the constant criminal actions by groups of former soldiers and activists of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] who, instigated by leaders of that party, are taking our country to anarchy and terrorism, as shown by the recent attacks and occupation of radio stations and public buildings and the attacks on deputies and political leaders of our parties, the undersigned parties who form the UNO [National Opposition Union], which won the 25 February 1990 elections, address the authorities of the executive branch and the national and international public opinion to state the following:

1. On 25 February 1990, the Nicaraguan people voted for the UNO and its government program and they voted against the FSLN, its totalitarian regime which violated human rights and freedoms, its program, and its disastrous economic policy that brought to the country the lowest standards of living ever in its history. Within the

democratic system established by the 25 February elections, the majority will must prevail in the decisions made in the National Assembly, the other government bodies, and the municipal councils. Therefore, we reject and condemn the methods of terrorist violence against the UNO political leaders and legislators to force them to accept the dictates of the FSLN minority. We also reject and condemn the methods of blackmail and destabilization to sabotage the government's action and to obtain political and economic benefits.

2. We reject and condemn the attitude of the police who, showing its partisan nature, maintained a passive and many times complaisant position towards the perpetrators of these criminal actions.

3. In view of the abuses and outrages we have been experiencing, we demand from the Executive Branch the effective exercise of its authority to stop these abuses and outrages and to provide the Nicaraguan people, political leaders, and representatives in the National Assembly with due guarantees for their lives, property, and rights.

4. We reject the FSLN's false propaganda which tries to incite the many owners of small plots of land and houses, making them think that the UNO representatives are legislating to deprive them of their property. We reiterate our commitment, which was established in the UNO government program, to respect the rights of peasants affected by the agrarian reform and the owners of small houses. Our struggle is to make sure that justice will prevail with regard to the abuses by those Sandinist officials who usurped mansions and large tracts of land.

5. Once again, we reiterate our commitment to the Nicaraguan people to fulfill the UNO government program and we call on them to struggle in defense of their rights and freedoms. For this reason, we state that our parties remain firmly united in all civic forums, in the National Assembly, the municipal councils, and the grass roots organizations throughout the country.

Cesar Charges Sandinist Terrorist Campaign

PA2206213091 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 20 Jun 91 p 12

[Article by Felix Navarrete]

[Text] National Assembly President Alfredo Cesar today reported to the international community the intensification of the campaign of terror to which the UNO [National Opposition Union] deputies have been subjected over the past few hours for having submitted before the National Assembly a bill to repeal Laws 85 and 86.

This morning, the Special Property Commission [Comision Especial de la Propiedad] met with the diplomatic corps accredited in Nicaragua. At this meeting the Nicaraguan deputies took advantage of the opportunity to talk with the foreign diplomats about the fear and uncertainty being experienced in the country because of threats by individuals who are clearly Sandinist supporters.

Dr. Fernando Zelaya Rojas, first secretary of the National Assembly, sent a letter today to the secretary general of the Interparliamentary Union (IPU) based in Geneva, Switzerland, denouncing the terrorist campaign being carried out by Sandinist followers.

The National Assembly president, at the conclusion of the meeting with the diplomatic corps, clearly identified the Sandinists as being responsible for the terrorism that has been carried out over the past few hours and he appealed to the good sense of this organization for the sake of the stability of the country.

Cesar called on the Sandinists to return to the Special Property Commission and said that the National Assembly would always be willing to resolve the country's problems by means of dialogue, but warned that "blackmail and threats would never be accepted."

As for the accusations and threats made by former President Ortega yesterday, Cesar said that the former president is "intolerant" and does not know what democracy is, and said that even though Ortega has accused him on several occasions, "he continues to respect him as a former president."

Cesar said, however, that Ortega should not be casting aspersions against the president of the Legislative Branch, hinting that it shows a lack of respect for the country's authorities.

Even though the president of the Legislative Branch did not want to provide details about the meeting with the diplomats, it has been learned that the diplomats told the deputies about their concerns about the latest developments.

The president of the Legislative Branch announced that today the Nicaraguan parliament has notified the international community and world parliaments about the wave of terrorism being endured in Nicaragua because of the Sandinist supporters, citing the takeover of radio stations and bombs being placed in the homes of deputies, which is a violation of the most elementary of human rights.

National Assembly Reports FSLN Abuses to IPU

PA2206034891 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Letter from Fernando Zelaya Rojas, first secretary of the National Assembly, in Managua, to the secretary general of the Interparliamentary Union (IPU), in Geneva, Switzerland—date of letter not given]

[Text] Mr. Pierre (?Kohner),

Secretary General of the Interparliamentary Union,

Geneva, Switzerland

Dear Mr. (?Kohner):

This is to inform you that the members of the largest legislative wing in the National Assembly—the members of the National Opposition Union (UNO)—are being threatened and terrorized by organizations and individuals identified with the opposition FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] for exercising their constitutional and legal rights. The fact of exercising their legitimate initiative to legislate, which corresponds to the members of the National Assembly, must not be cause for aggression. This represents a violation of legislative rights.

The terrorist attacks have included forceful takeovers of public buildings, privately-owned radio stations, and mayors' offices in certain parts of the country.

We are experiencing a situation of terror and uncertainty in Nicaragua, thus the Board of Directors of the National Assembly has instructed me to address this letter to you so that the UUC [not further identified) will take note of the situation.

I thank you in advance for your attention,

Sincerely yours,

Fernando Zelaya Rojas,

First Secretary, National Assembly of Nicaragua

PLI Blames Chamorro, FSLN for Violence

PA2106181091 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] Wilfredo Navarro, president of the Independent Liberal Party [PLI], is holding President Violeta Chamorro and the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], along with the police, responsible for the dynamite charges hurled against his residence and the PLI offices in Ciudad Jardin. Navarro made these charges during a news conference in which he described President Chamorro as careless and incapable of checking violence in the country. However, he did not have the courage to accuse former President Daniel Ortega himself, whom Navarro regards as responsible for the actual violence.

During the news conference, Navarro presented a document, the contents of which coincide with remarks on the situation and political attacks on the government that have been made by deputies of the radical wing of the so-called National Opposition Unity [UNO]. PLI sources told this radio station that, before the proposal to repeal Laws 85 and 86 was presented, the UNO radical wing had been meeting in secret with the purpose of finding ways to point their guns at Vice Minister Antonio Lacayo and Government Minister Carlos Hurtado.

'Recontras' Takeover of Power Plant Foiled

PA2206002091 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] A group of recontras have attempted to take over the Centro America Power Plant. Four armed men, who identified themselves as recontras, yesterday tried to take over the Centro America Power Plant, one of the main power suppliers in Jinotega Department. The rebels tried to disarm the security guard posted at the first gate, but he managed to escape and make contact with the plant's head of security. The recontras realized that the guard was able to advise someone of what was happening and fled before the police arrived. The Centro America Power Plant has been attacked several times in the past during the war with the contras, who were financed by the United States during the past decade.

Recontras Reportedly Regrouping in Costa Rica

PA2206030091 Managua Radio Ya in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] Costa Rican and Nicaraguan security authorities have detected an increase in military activity along the border between the two countries. This appears to indicate that the recontras are becoming organized again. Costa Rican Ambassador to Nicaragua Carlos Aguilar confirmed that camps abandoned along the Rio San Juan area being reactivated. It is believed that a recontra movement is getting organized under very difficult situations in Barra del Colorado, the diplomat explained. He noted that shooting ensued during a combing operation in the Rio San Juan area. He added that the Costa Rican police found three abandoned camps, one of which had modern communications equipment, new helicopter (?blades), food, and a group of eight to 10 men.

Another bomb exploded last night in Matagalpa in the house of Democratic Conservative Party [PCD] Deputy Sergio T [name as heard]. As a result of the explosion, seven persons were injured and some material damage was reported. It was also reported that some 500 recontras are moving about near Wiwili, Quilali, and La Concordia and are threatening to take them over.

BARRICADA Reports on Departmental Congresses

PA2006224791

[Editorial Report] Managua BARRICADA in Spanish on 17 June carries several items on the departmental congresses held by the Sandinist National Liberation Front, FSLN, in preparation for the national congress that is scheduled to begin on 19 July.

A 1000-word article by Roberto Larios on pages 1 and 10 reports the conclusion of the Managua departmental congress, "after four days of practically uninterrupted debate." In highlighting the decisions of the congress, the article notes that the congress approved the election of the members to the FSLN National Directorate by slate, rather than individually. The slate chosen consists of the

current directorate members with the addition of Rene Nunez and Sergio Ramirez. In addition, the Managua congress approved a motion to propose Commander Daniel Ortega as candidate for party secretary general and Commander Henry Ruiz for treasurer. The congress agreed that both these posts, "like all other top FSLN posts," will be subject to election by direct, secret vote. The article notes that during the congress, Commander Dora Maria Tellez declined an offer to be nominated as a directorate member.

According to the Larios article, the departmental congress called on all Sandinists to prepare to head the struggle "against the repeal of Laws 85 and 86," which deal with property ownership. It reportedly also decided to eliminate from its by-laws a provision banning former contras from FSLN membership, reduced the number of members of the Sandinist Assembly from 120 to 80, and elected the last 16 of a total of 129 delegates to the national congress.

The same issue of BARRICADA carries in its supplement, VENTANA, on pages 2 to 7, FSLN Commander Daniel Ortega's 5000-word address on opening the Managua congress. Ortega hails the FSLN's past achievements. He says: "...in the midst of a confrontation with Yankee imperialism, we Sandinists went on to guarantee the second free elections in Nicaragua's history. This means that we Sandinists guaranteed the democratic process." He attributes the peaceful transition of government to the Sandinists and says that even the disarming of the contras was "a process that we initiated...."

Ortega continues to describe Sandinist accomplishments, saying that in the post-electoral period, the Sandinists have continued to defend the interests of the "revolution" and maintain their "unswaying" commitment to the poor. He says that as the Sandinists move toward the first party congress in their history, they must view the so-called "electoral defeat" from the proper perspective, in order to "better arrange our forces in this new phase of struggle." He says Sandinists must be self-critical, but "not fall into the trap of those who want to change the FSLN's nature and reason for existence." He says there are two "explosive" situations in Nicaragua at present: one in the countryside, the other in Managua. In the countryside, he says the party's main duty at present is to "unite the peasants;" in Managua, specifically in the National Assembly, the party must struggle against those who want to repeal Laws 85 and 86. In this regard, he says: "We are not seeking to overthrow the government; we are demanding that the transition agreements be respected." He adds: "What those revengeful deputies are doing endangers all the efforts that have been made to achieve some amount of stability for Nicaragua."

In closing, Ortega tells his audience that the Sandinists' commitment to the people "obliges us to emerge from the Managua congress and from the National Congress, stronger, more united, more aggressive, firmer, and more committed Sandinists."

The 17 June BARRICADA issue reports in two articles on pages 1 and 5, totalling 700 words, that departmental congresses in Carazo, Madriz, Nueva Segovia, Jinotega, and Boaco ended at different times on 16 June. The first, a 200-word report, adds that the Jinotega congress agreed by consensus that the FSLN's National Directorate should be expanded to consist of from eight to 11 members. The second, a 500-word report, states that the Carazo departmental congress ended on 16 June with participants emphasizing that "unity is the fundamental path through which to preserve the principles of the FSLN as Nicaragua's majority party." The report says that the participants agreed to "defend the right to land, jobs, education, and health, to defend women's equality, and to struggle for respect for and the promotion of human rights in the country." According to the report, Sandinists at the congress also emphasized solidarity with other people that are struggling for their liberation and pronounced themselves to be against the exploitation of man by man."

Panama

Reverted Base Allegedly Under U.S. 'Custody'

PA2106135791 Panama City CRITICA LIBRE in Spanish 20 Jun 91 p 10

[Report by Arnulfo Mendoza]

[Text] Alfredo Ehlers, the Christian Democratic legislator for Colon Province's electoral circuit 3-1, reported that U.S. Army troops have violated Panama's national sovereignty and the Torrijos-Carter Treaties.

The Colon legislator said that he had gone to the former Fort Gulick installation, which reverted to Panama a few years ago and is now called General Jose Domingo Espinar Fort, with several members of the Legislative Assembly's budget commission on a working mission.

He was astonished because once they got to the fort and tried to enter it, a U.S. Army soldier stopped them and said it was a restricted area, which implied that it is under U.S. custody.

The legislator pointed out that all the efforts made by the Legislative Assembly's budget commission, headed by its President Milton Heriquez, were unsuccessful because, according to the guards, including Panamanian guards, they were unable to change the orders issued by the U.S. Army.

Anti-Endara Plot Ascribed to Former Noriega Aide

PA2106152191 Panama City Radio KW' Continente in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] Former legislator under Noriega, Otilio Miranda, is in Mexico, from where he is allegedly directing a conspiracy against President Guillermo Endara, which

includes the introduction of weapons to oust Endara from power, according to statements made yesterday by judicial sources.

Investigations carried out by the authorities indicate that Otilio Miranda, who slipped out of Panama after escaping from members of the Technical Judicial Police, arrived in Mexico illegally.

According to the sources, Miranda, a close aide to deposed General Manuel Antonio Noriega, may be directing a group of leftists who are conspiring against Endara. The group reportedly includes former Democratic Revolutionary Party members Ramiro Vasquez Chambonnet, Rafael Mesquita, and Nils Castro.

Endara: 'I Will Never Run for Office Again'

PA2206153491 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] There has been a considerable decline in the popularity of his government since 20 December 1989, President Guillermo Endara stated today while assessing his government's work. Endara also indicated that he will only remain in his post until 1994, when he will deliver the presidential sash to the person whom the people elect.

[Begin Endara recording] I knew ever since I became a presidential candidate that when I assumed the duties of president, my government's popularity would decrease. Why is this? Because we would be taking over the government of a bankrupt and corrupt country, a country full of vices created by the dictatorship over 21 years. When Dr. Arnulfo Arias was once asked how long it will take to rebuild Panama, he replied that it would take a generation. It will take 20 years to rebuild the country because we have to educate an entire generation about democratic principles.

We knew that with the difficult situation we were in we would not be able to maintain the popularity that we enjoyed at the outset of the government. I think that this is a sacrifice that I am making for the Panamanian people. I am doing this because I know what we have to do—which we are doing—for the people. We know that in the long term the people will come out well. The important thing is that they realize this work should be done not only by the government, but by the Panamanian people themselves.

[Unidentified reporter] In view of this decline in the popularity of your government, what are your plans for the 1994 elections?

[Endara] Given my principles, I cannot remain at the helm of the presidency one second beyond the term stipulated by the constitution. On 1 September 1994, I will deliver the presidency over to the person who will be elected by the Panamanian people. I will never run for office again, nor will I ever think to violate the constitution. You can rest assured that on 1 September 1994 I will deliver the presidency to the person elected by the Panamanian people. I want to preside over honest elections, which will go down in history as the most honest elections ever held in the Republic of Panama. [end recording]

Minister Says Riots Plan of Prior Defense Forces

PA2206210191 Panama City CRITICA LIBRE in Spanish 22 Jun 91 p 8

[Report by Arnulfo Mendoza]

[Text] Government and Justice Minister Juan Chevalier has stated that student demonstrations last week in various parts of the city are obviously part of a well-drafted plan.

Chevalier also said, without going into detail, that approximately four weeks ago a Panamanian representative arrived from Mexico and immediately met with a group to form a Panama University Student Coordinating Board to put to work all the events that have been taking place here.

Chevalier said that these groups are financed by former Defense Forces members who appear to be yearning for the power and pleasures of the comfortable lifestyle they lost.

The government minister reported that the government's main role was to persecute crime, within the limits of the law and in any of its forms.

Referring to the hostile attitude of the students who took to the streets, Chevalier said he felt sorry for those "poor" students, as young as 13, protesting over meat price increases without having the slightest idea what the real cost is.

Government Said To Make 'Overtures' to PDC

PA2206041991 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] Some members of the political parties that form the government alliance are trying to make overtures to the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], Molirena [Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement] President Alfredo Ramirez has said.

[Begin Ramirez recording] I do not like to use the word reconciliation with the PDC because I do not feel that differences exist between us. I am not aware of any pacts between Molirena and the PDC. However, I know that both parties, which are determined to seek the well-being of the country, will agree every time it becomes necessary to defend draft bills, projects, and attitudes that will benefit Panama.

In this sense, some overtures have already been made, and I believe that they will continue to be made in the future, because our two parties agree on such basic issues as the health, well-being, and progress of the republic.

'Joint Declaration' on Economics Signed

PA2206221791 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] The Confederation of Workers of the Republic of Panama [CTRP] and the Association of Panamanian Industrialists [SIP] signed a joint declaration this afternoon intended to ensure that the country has an economic structure capable of supplying goods and services to satisfy the basic needs of the Panamanian people. The event took place at the SIP's main office and the declaration was signed by CTRP Secretary General Aniano Pinzon and SIP President Dario Selles in the presence of union leaders and SIP directors. The CTRP and the SIP believe that it is essential to establish a social pact to ensure the fair distribution of income, thus improving the well-being of the workers, which must be intimately linked to increased productivity.

[Begin recording] [Selles] We, the industrial and agro-industrial production sector workers and businessmen are aware that our country currently faces serious economic, political, and social problems. For the sake of the nation's interest, we must overcome our differences through concerted efforts, because the end result is that the great majorities of which both the business and the labor sectors belong will be seriously affected by the proposed [government] economic policies.

We believe that to try to implement deep changes in such a distressfully short time will cause the industrial and agro-industrial sectors to disappear, including many thousands of workers who will join the ranks of the unemployed.

[Pinzon] We, the CTRP workers, are an important part of private enterprise and express our solidarity toward the industrialists and farm producers when they justly demand from the state better conditions and more time to work productively to bolster the country's economic development and to create jobs within the framework of competitiveness and marketing.

Both the SIP and the CTRP believe it necessary to recommend the country's businessmen and workers, to maintain mutual respect, and to try to reach agreements in negotiations and conflicts that may arise from labor relationships, and thus avoid confrontations, the loss of salaries, and the loss of productivity, which, due to the country's current situation, are not convenient or advisable for either side.

The CTRP and the SIP, to develop this declaration, agree to maintain a permanent dialogue through ad hoc commissions, which will meet regularly to implement each of the points in this document. [end recording]

Union, Industrialists Issue Statement on Economy

PA2306220291 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 22 Jun 91 p 8-A

[Joint statement issued by the Confederation of Workers of the Republic of Panama, CTRP, and the Association of Panamanian Industrialists, SIP, on 21 June in Panama City]

[Text] The CTRP and the SIP, inspired by the highest democratic interests that must define every modern nation and by the need to reach real national development, hereby inform the country of the following:

We workers and businessmen of the industrial and agricultural sectors are aware that our country is currently facing profound economic, political, and social problems. It is in the nation's interest that we reach an agreement since the proposed economic policy will affect the large majority, including the business and labor sector. We feel that attempting to impose major changes in a painfully short period of time would doom the industrial and agro-industrial sector, and thousands of workers would join the ranks of the unemployed.

In this respect, we, the CTRP, constitute an important part of private enterprise and we support industrialists and agricultural producers who rightly demand from the government better conditions and more time to be productive agents so that they can promote the country's economic development and create more jobs within the framework of competition and the market.

The two groups agree that the country must be given an economic structure that ensures the production of goods and services that satisfies the Panamanian people's basic needs. We recognize the importance and worth of the commercial and service structure for our nation and we respect it. We do feel, however, that there must be laws that allow for transferring funds from the aforementioned sector to the national productive sector so that we can have the financial resources to guide and develop it.

Foreign investment is welcome as long as our businessmen do not disappear and our workers are not impoverished. It must be directed at maximizing national savings, reinvesting, and creating new and better jobs.

We need the state to give greater coverage and incentives to small-scale and medium-scale businessmen and to give more attention to the reconversion and technical development of our agricultural and industrial sectors.

We need to improve health, housing, transport services, and especially the quality of our education because these are factors that have a major influence on worker productivity and consequently on developing more efficient and competitive private enterprise.

In addition, we SIP businessmen and industrialists recognize the workers' legitimate right to improve their socioeconomic condition and to maintain many of the

labor movement's gains, such as the right to the 13th month bonus and the right to have labor organizations. In this respect, like the CTRP, we respect the mediation role the state plays in worker/businessman relations.

We SIP businessmen and CTRP workers recognize that both groups urgently need to undertake efforts in this democratic state to ensure real participation of organizations like ours in matters and decisions of public interest and in matters concerning the commitment of the nation's present and future.

In view of the above, the CTRP and SIP deem it essential to have a social pact in Panama to achieve a just distribution of income, thus improving the workers' welfare, something that must be closely related to increased productivity.

The SIP and CTRP deem it necessary to recommend to the country's businessmen and workers to respect each other and to try to reach agreements in negotiations and conflicts stemming from labor disputes and to avoid confrontations and lost wages and productivity, which amid the situation in the country, are neither advisable nor beneficial to either side.

To further this statement, the CTRP and SIP agree to maintain a permanent dialogue through an ad hoc commission that will meet regularly to give structure and content to the aforementioned points.

CTRP, SIP, Panama City, 21 Jun 1991

This joint statement contains several goals and objectives:

1. Defending and respecting the labor unions and their struggle to better the workers' socioeconomic conditions.

2. Defending the industrial and agro-industrial sector, including small-scale and medium-scale rural producers.

3. Reaching a consensus between workers and industrialists to give the country an economic structure that ensures the production of goods and services that satisfy the basic needs of the Panamanian people.

4. Seeking agreements with the commercial and service sector so that financial resources may be transferred from this sector to develop and guide national production.

5. Encouraging foreign investment based on the idea of maximizing national savings, reinvesting, and creating new and better jobs.

6. Joining efforts to get the state to provide greater coverage and incentives to small-scale and medium-scale businessmen and to reinvest and give technical development to agricultural and industrial sectors.

7. Concerting efforts to improve health, housing, transportation services, and the quality of education to make the workers more productive and thus have more productive workers and more efficient and competitive private enterprise.

8. Struggling for a just distribution of income allowing an increase in the workers' welfare, something closely related to increased productivity.

9. Reaching consensus to give the country a real and authentic democratic state that ensures the true participation of organizations like ours in decisions of public interest where the country's present and future are committed.

10. Reaching a consensus to resolve labor disputes within a framework of mutual respect, avoiding confrontations that are harmful to workers and businessmen.

11. Reaching a consensus to implement programs and systems intended to train and upgrade local workers and bring them in line with the development and progress of science and technology abroad.

Indian Leaders Meet Endara, Cite Drug Activity

PA2106135291 Panama City CRITICA LIBRE in Spanish 19 Jun 91 p 2

[Text] President Guillermo Endara Galimany has met with Kuna Yala Indian area leaders, headed by Intendant Arcadio Bonilla, Honorable Legislator Olmenares Quijano, and Chief Leonidas Kantule Valdes, to find a prompt and effective solution to the problem of undocumented people in the San Blas-Colombian border area.

According to the Indian leaders, they have serious problems because many undocumented people coming from Colombia are drug traffickers and bring great harm to the Indians. Their visit to President Endara had the sole purpose of requesting that the president intercede on their behalf to have more Public Forces members assigned to the Indian area.

Intendant Arcadio Bonilla reported that Deputy Government Minister Jose Miguel Aleman said to him last week that 30 new Kuna Yala policemen—recently graduated from the Police Academy—would be sent to the area and that the problem would be solved shortly.

Likewise, the Indian area leaders expressed their concern because the "Mina Santa Rosa" firm is carrying out a gold-mining feasibility study in the Indian area, and has not consulted with the Kunas' general congress or included the ecology of the area in their study.

Medellin Cartel Suspect in Jail Attack

PA2206192791 Panama City CRITICA LIBRE in Spanish 22 Jun 91 pp 27, 17

[By Justino Gonzalez, Jr.]

[Text] Government and Justice Minister Juan B. Chevalier has said that an armed branch of the Medellin Cartel that entered the country recently was responsible

for the 20 June armed attack on the jail located on Naos Island, in order to release several Colombians who are in prison on drug-trafficking charges. According to Minister Chevalier, the operation was led by two lieutenants of Jorge Luis Ochoa, a well-known member of the Medellin Cartel who surrendered to Colombian authorities. The identity of the two Colombians is not known.

Meanwhile, Assistant District Attorney Carlos Herrera Moran said that the Colombians who participated in the attempted escape could have entered the country legally through the Bay of Panama. According to Herrera Moran, over the past two months a significant number of Colombians have entered the country. These Colombians have their papers in order and are armed, and most of them have been arrested in areas where drugs are sold.

Herrera Moran said that informers at the Modelo Jail had talked about the presence of Colombian henchmen in Panama to free their fellow countrymen. According to the reports, prisoners at the Modelo Jail and on Naos Island would be freed.

According to the assistant district attorney, there is no proof of National Police members being involved in the attempted escape. However, investigations are being carried out to rule out the possibility.

The authorities have increased surveillance at the jails throughout the country to confront a possible armed action. There are more than 80 persons charged with drug trafficking being held on Naos Island. According to the authorities, three Colombians, including Eduardo Martinez, secretary of the Medellin Cartel, would be among those prisoners freed during the armed action.

Ministry To Reopen Most Schools 24 Jun

PA2306002691 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 22 Jun 91 p 12

[Communique issued by Education Minister Marcos A. Alarcon P. in Panama City—date not given]

[Text] The Education Ministry announces that classes will resume in Panama Metro and San Miguelito high schools on 24 June. Classes had been temporarily suspended following acts of vandalism by certain student groups.

Excepted from this reopening are the National Institute, the Jose Remon Cantera School, and the Arts and Crafts School, which are public schools; and the Thomas Alva Edison and Tomas Gabriel Duque private schools, which will remain closed.

Students must return to school accompanied by their parents or guardians, who must reaffirm in the counselor's office the agreement signed at the beginning of the 1991 school year.

The principals of the schools involved in the recent incidents (10-13 June) have the responsibility of taking whatever disciplinary actions the current rules call for, taking into account the repetition and seriousness of the events that resulted in the suspension of classes.

The Education Ministry warns that from this moment on, any disruption of normal school activity will have to be made up, which would mean altering the school calendar.

Marcos A. Alarcon, Education Minister

Argentina

Defense Minister Views Chilean Border Dispute

PY2206225091 Buenos Aires Radio Nacional Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] We have held a long dialogue with Defense Minister Erman Gonzalez; we spoke to him about the function of the Armed Forces in the antidrug fight, the plan to sell real estate to reequip the Armed Forces, the Condor-2 missile, and the border dispute with Chile. About this last matter, Minister Gonzalez said:

[Begin recording] [Gonzalez] We are moving forward toward the resolution of all conflicts through diplomatic channels, which is the wise thing to do these days. Out of 24 border conflict issues that existed, commissions from the two Foreign Ministries have practically reached agreements on 22; two issues, one of them dealing with Laguna del Desierto and the other with an area to the south [words indistinct], which we are also trying.... [Gonzalez changes thought] moving forward to find the best course leading to a solution within diplomacy. We believe we will have a final proposal for a solution in time for the visit Chilean President Aylwin will make in August.

[Susana Arganaraz] Is it true that the border police will check the position of border markers along the Chilean border every month?

[Gonzalez] That is the normal work of surveillance and control—guarding our borders. Both countries exercise this type of watch, which is promoting closer rapprochement and greater participation. In the next few days, the Argentine border police chief will travel to Chile to negotiate an accord establishing joint and supplementary actions to be undertaken against the dangers common to both countries, especially drug trafficking.

Consequently, I would rather say that this step and fulfillment of the mission by the forces of each country—the Carabineros of Chile and the Argentine border police—have resulted in a rapprochement. We are trying to enforce the theory that borders, instead of being factors of division and confrontation, should be factors of union.

[Arganaraz] One last question, Minister. The Condor-2 project has been destroyed, right?

[Gonzalez] Nothing has been or will be destroyed. The only thing that was done was to give the necessary clearance to this project, so it can stop being mysterious and can stop raising the suspicion that it deals with unconventional weapons, with weapons that cannot be considered conventional. What we will do is take advantage of the machines, facilities, and, above all, the technical and scientific experience to give the Condor project a mission of research and, possibly, of improving mankind's living standards; that is, launching satellites, exploring the atmosphere, forecasting weather phenomena, and other scientific applications that are currently part of space research and space applications.

[Arganaraz] Does that mean technicians and scientists continue to work there?

[Gonzalez] Right. But now they will work under the new commission that has been created, which is the National Aerospace Commission, CONAE. It will be in charge of research and project implementation. Projects can be implemented by CONAE itself or in cooperation with NASA, equivalent European organizations, Brazil or other countries, or Argentine or foreign private institutions. [end recording]

Defense Minister Leaves for Spain, U.S.

PY2206033491 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0253 GMT 22 Jun 91

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 21 Jun (TELAM)—Defense Minister Antonio Erman Gonzalez left today for Spain where he will participate in a congress to discuss the privatization of enterprises in the defense sector. From Spain Minister Gonzalez will travel to the United States, where he will meet with Pentagon authorities. [passage omitted]

Minister Gonzalez is scheduled to return to Buenos Aires on 1 July.

Army 'Strongly United' With Economic Problems

PY2306205691 Buenos Aires Radio Nacional Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] Army Commander in Chief [title as heard] General Martin Bonnet has said that the Army is accompanying the country and that never has his institution been as strongly united as it is now in confronting economic problems.

Gen. Bonnet said the Army's operational level is good. We are at the top level, he said, thanks to the will and effort of Army members.

Air Force To Increase Antidrug Struggle

PY2306234691 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2107 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Jun (TELAM)—The Argentine Air Force has reported that, within the framework of the antidrug struggle and in light of irregularities that have been detected, it will increase monitoring for strict compliance with the Aeronautics Code (Law 17285).

The Air Force stated in a press communique that Article 29 of this law establishes that an owner or tenant is required to report the existence of any place that is appropriate for aerial activities and is regularly used for this purpose to Air Force authorities. To avoid any infractions, the Air Force asks that individuals report such locations through a note addressed to the Air

Transit Directorate, Office 178 Green—250 Pedro Zanni Avenue, P. O. Box 1104, Federal Capital.

The Air Force asks that the following information be included in the note: Name of the site, legal statement of ownership, and a map with the location of the air strip, including a close well-known geographical feature, town, or railway station along with the name of the province, district, etc.

The note should also include the size, orientation, area, height above sea level, and communications system for the site, and a document authorizing use of the site unless it is occupied by the owner.

Economy Minister Announces New Currency

PY2206172491 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1420 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 21 Jun (TELAM)—Economy Minister Domingo Cavallo announced today that the government has "already decided to replace the austral with the 'peso,' which will be a new currency equal to 10,000 australes or $1."

Cavallo said the date for implementing the new currency "is the only point still to be decided." He added: "It could be on 1 January or 1 April 1993. President Menem will have to decide. There are different positions supporting each date." [passage omitted]

Cavallo said the peso "will be equal to $1. This will simplify calculations for an economy that is becoming inter-related globally, an economy that will have many imports and exports and that needs a frame of reference for domestic decisions to link us to the world."

Cavallo told Radio America that the bonus bill will be debated in Congress next week but will be enforced late this year "as a permanent provision in the Labor Contracts Law." [passage omitted]

Cavallo reiterated that the entire monetary base is backed by gold and foreign currency. He added that at the end of this month, "the Bonex [dollar-denominated bond]—which backs 9 percent of the monetary base—will be completely replaced by genuine dollars."

Cavallo also accused reporter Julio Ramos, director of AMBITO FINANCIERO, of "orchestrating a campaign to deceive people" through his economic interpretations by advocating the purchase of dollars in the future. Cavallo said: "It would not surprise me to see Julio Ramos selling dollars in the future. He creates the impression through the newspaper that people should buy dollars at 10,600 or at 11,000 australes. And he is going to sell them because he knows there will be no devaluation."

Cavallo added: "The people who are buying dollars at a future exchange rate should know that they will lose just as those people who on that Friday last February bought dollars at the deceptive price of over 10,000 australes and had to sell them at 9,500 australes."

Cavallo said: "Ramos wants me to approve the sale of a television station in violation of the Radio Broadcasting Law, but he is not going to get it. He wants to destabilize the economy and he wants me to leave the ministry, but he not going to achieve that."

Cavallo said he has the support of the population and the government. He added: "President Menem, his cabinet, and legislators—although there is no quorum (on the staggered bonus issue)—are supporting our good handling of the economy."

Cavallo Promises Mid-Year Bonus for Workers

PY2406004291 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 22 Jun 91 p 1

[Text] (DYN-NA)—Rallying back after the defeat of his bonus-cruncher in Congress this week, Economy Minister Domingo Cavallo yesterday promised all state workers, they would get their mid-year wage bonus late but in full before next Friday, July 5.

The Treasury will obtain cash to finance the bonus from 50 million dollars it recently raised in motor car import permits, by reshuffling FONAVI [National Housing Fund], PAMI [Comprehensive Medical Assistance Fund] and ANSSAL [National Health Insurance Administration] housing and social welfare fund assignments, and by deferring government payments to suppliers, Cavallo said.

The mid-year bonus is traditionally paid before the end or on the last day of the month. Cavallo promised retired workers and old-age pensioners their bonuses on time, without making that promise extensive to provincial workers. "The provinces will have to manage payments on their own, just like the national government is doing," Cavallo said.

The government needs to raise 220 million dollars to meet bonus payments, and it had fallen 150 million short, a gap to be filled by the revenue shifting Cavallo outlined yesterday.

Other major announcements were made by the minister yesterday, including a currency change from the austral back to the peso early next year and the padding out of retirement funds with the government's 30 percent stake in Entel [National Telecommunications Enterprise].

Cavallo ventured April as a likely date for the currency changeover "to celebrate one year of 'convertibility.' A new era begins next April, there will be a new Argentina and it could start with a new currency," he announced.

Other major announcements:

—Some 600 million dollars in oil field privatizations will pour into state coffers this month, plus a 150 million dollar World Bank rail loan.

—Entel debts to suppliers and other creditors will be paid off with 16-year government bonds.
—The Value Added Tax will be raised two percent with respect to May.
—Central Bank President Roque Fernandez announced that an IMF stand-by credit for Argentina could be "a matter of days" although the terms of the credit had to be changed at the last minute after the government's bonus setback at the Lower House of Congress.
—The new peso-dollar parity will be one peso/one dollar, or 10,000 australs/one peso, Cavallo said.

Duhalde Announces Gubernatorial Running Mate

PY2406001091 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 22 Jun 91 p 1

[Text] (NA)—Vice-President Eduardo Duhalde announced yesterday that Buenos Aires Social Action Minister Rafael Roma, 38, would be his running-mate for the gubernatorial elections.

In his surprise announcement, Duhalde said Roma—who belongs to the Peronist Buenos Aires Province Front (FREPEBO)—would "be in charge of creating an electoral coalition" for the September 8 ballot contest.

In announcing Roma, Duhalde mistakenly called him "Felipe" istead of Rafael, but later apologized.

Ubaldini Announces Candidacy for Governor

PY2406004091 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 23 Jun 91 pp 1, 4

[Text] (DYN-NA)—CGT [General Confederation of Labor]- Azopardo Secretary-General Saul Ubaldini yesterday threw his hat into the ring for the Buenos Aires gubernatorial race, hours after Vice-President Eduardo Duhalde named Rafael Roma as his running-mate for the September 8 provincial elections.

The labour leader said that he would run outside the Justicialist Party (PJ) structure since he does not want to be affiliated with the "neo-liberal proposal" launched by the Justicialist Party, which contradicts "Peronist ideals."

Ubaldini hopes to ally himself with sectors of the Justicialist Party who are disillusioned with the present party leaders, although that does not mean he would form an alliance with the centre-left, sources close to the labour leader said.

However, Ubaldini failed to specify whether he would run under a party or independently, and also failed to comment on who his running-mate for vice-governor would be.

Intransigent Party leader Oscar Alende said that he backs up the Ubaldini candidacy and would run with him on the slate if asked.

Sources close to Ubaldini said that they have not ruled out forming an alliance with the centre-left, however they failed to make any further comments on the issue.

In recent weeks, the 62 Organizations, the political wing of the Peronist trade union movement, had high profile meetings, where Ubaldini, Luis Barrionuevo and Lorenzo Miguel headed the labour discussions.

Buenos Aires Social Action Minister Rafael Roma said yesterday that being named Duhalde's running-mate "was a great surprise" and added that the Duhalde-Roma ticket would not be changed after the primaries.

"The Vice-President has already given me 13 priority issues to work on," Roma said.

A member of Governor Antonio Cafiero's cabinet said that Duhalde and Roma would attempt to forge an alliance with various sectors of society, and broaden the electoral base.

Ubaldini was approached before his announcement by members of the Vice-President's political campaign to form part of the coalition, but the union leader decided to respond to the proposal by launching his own campaign.

"Being a simple militant," Ubaldini said, "I find that the neo-liberal ideas contradict the ideas of those of us who put our lives on the line to fight for the re-emergence of a just, free and sovereign Argentina."

Duhalde still has to face off with San Martin Mayor Carlos Brown in the Peronist primaries scheduled for July 20. But the combined electoral force behind Duhalde's Federal League and Cafiero's FREPEBO [Buenos Aires Province Peronist Front] front, which Roma supports, is strongly tipped to win the primaries.

Investigations Continue on Money Laundering Gang

PY2106154491 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1139 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Jun (TELAM)—Investigations continue in connection with the harsh blow dealt to drug trafficking yesterday when a "money laundering" gang with connections in Bolivia and Colombia was dismantled. Millions of dollars worth of goods were seized and 19 gang members were arrested in 19 simultaneous operations in the federal capital and Buenos Aires Province.

The joint operation staged by combined forces were ordered by San Isidro Judge Daniel Alberto Piotti and were implemented by special troops from the border police and the Buenos Aires Province police with DEA support. The combined forces were congratulated by President Carlos Menem through Drug Prevention Secretary Alberto Lestelle, who briefed the president on the operation.

At the conclusion of the operation, Piotti released a summary in which he reported that two of the detainees are major bosses with international connections. One is

former Bolivian Army officer Humberto Nicanor Gil Suarez, who has links with the Bolivian and Colombian drug "cartels" and who is wanted in his country on charges of involvement in the murder of a Bolivian scientist and his two assistants. The other boss is Bolivian Jose Bismarck Arredondo Alvarez.

Piotti reported that the investigation began in November 1988 and that four planes and a helicopter were seized in operations at San Fernando Airport yesterday. Simultaneously, 14 cars—nine of them collectors items—were seized in Arrecifes. The cars were used to "launder" ill-gotten gains. Piotti estimated that the goods that were seized are worth $5 million without including the bank accounts, which will be investigated.

The judge confirmed that his court had requested DEA cooperation, adding that this cooperation "must be accepted because we are dealing with 'crimes against mankind.'" He placed particular emphasis on the investigation by the border police and the Buenos Aires Province Police, which did not allow "even the smallest leak during two years of work."

One of the most important operations was in the Buenos Aires town of Arrecifes, where the "Los Alelies" ranch and the local air club were raided. Bolivians Carlos Suarez Arana Orellano, Miguel Angel Suarez Menacho, and Williams Suarez Suarez were arrested at the ranch, where they stayed in radio contact with Santa Cruz de la Sierra.

The following is a list of raided residences, offices, and stores in the federal capital: 819 Mayo Avenue, sixth floor; 560 Mayo Avenue, second floor; 165 Cabildo Street; 1935 Federico Lacroze Street; 4486 Mercedes Street; 4215 Los Incas Avenue; and 1611 Plaza Street. In Buenos Aires Province, there were raids at the following addresses: 665 Kennedy Street in Arrecifes; 1546 Alvarado Street in Moron; 1180 Mayo Avenue in Ramos Mejia; 930 Rivera Indarte Street, 1355 Pellegrini Street, and 2628 Italia Street in Martinez; and 339 El Zorzal Street in Boulogne.

Piotti said the documents that were seized are significant "for investigations into other cases linked with drug trafficking." As for gang bosses Gil Suarez and Arredondo Alvarez, they were arrested in operations at 1995 Zabala Street and 2376 Vuelta de Obligado Street in Buenos Aires. Several documents, data processing equipment, and other items were seized during the operation. The bosses' wives, who are involved in criminal activities, were also arrested.

The detainees will be prosecuted on charges of organizing and financing drug trafficking activities (Article 3 of Law 20771), which will be enforced despite the fact that it has already been repealed because of the date on which the investigation began. Article 25 of Law 23737, which punishes the "laundering" of drug trafficking money, will also be applied.

Piotti said that considering that this was an exceptional case, the operations that were carried out outside his jurisdiction were reported to San Nicolas Judge Hugo del Pozo, Lomas de Zamora Judge Julio Piasggio, and federal capital Judge Ricardo Weschler.

Bolivia

Suarez Nominated as 1993 Presidential Candidate

PY2106183291 La Paz Radio Fides Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] The Patriotic Accord has entered a new political phase with the nomination of General Hugo Banzer Suarez as presidential candidate for the 1993 elections. The leaders of this coalition also decided to work together in the upcoming municipal elections.

A decision was made to reshuffle the national cabinet next August.

Suarez on Municipal Elections, Cabinet Changes

PY2106182291 La Paz Television Boliviana Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] General Hugo Banzer Suarez, president of the Patriotic Accord Political Committee, has officially announced the ADN [Nationalist Democratic Action] and MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] decision to share candidates in the December municipal elections.

Gen. Banzer Suarez, who is also ADN president, made the announcement at a news conference attended by the highest-ranking leaders of the Patriotic Accord parties. A document given to the media during the news conference emphasizes the desire for unity of the ADN, Christian Democratic Party, MIR, and MIR-New Majority and the government's decision to preserve national economic and political stability, thus ensuring Bolivia's social and political development. The document announces the important news that thousands of Bolivians who do not belong to any political party will be able to take part in the elections—qualified, skilled independent citizens can run in the elections as Patriotic Accord candidates.

[Begin Banzer Suarez recording] As we have done before, we have summoned you to report to the people a Patriotic Accord decision that is directly related to the upcoming municipal elections because you are the link between the political parties and the people. [end recording]

ADN Vice President Guillermo Fortun was responsible for explaining the basis of the alliance:

[Begin Fortun recording] We are aware that we must expend a great deal of energy and maintain a firm will to preserve our economic stability and achieve Bolivia's social and political development. We are also aware that it is not easy to head, seriously and responsibly, an administration that must provide all families with jobs, health assistance, educational facilities, and a home. This is particularly difficult in a poor country and in a

global situation that is making achievement of these goals increasingly difficult. Nonetheless, we will continue to fight for Bolivia's greatness and development and to make Bolivians value unity and a peaceful, stable coexistence. In an objective, dispassionate, and clear evaluation, Patriotic Accord is showing the country that it is fulfilling its promise of progress and well-being for all Bolivians. [end recording]

Answering reporters' questions, Gen. Banzer Suarez discussed some aspects of the Pa..iotic Accord's performance:

[Begin Banzer Suarez recording] The president of the Republic has conveyed to me his wish to have the same cabinet until 6 August, when he will address the nation as all Bolivian presidents have done on that day. I repeat that he wants the same ministers to be with him on the occasion of his message to the nation. He does not plan to change the cabinet before 6 August. I am reporting this news to you because I believe Bolivians would like to know and the president has authorized me to make his decision known. [end recording]

Senate Approves Electoral Law; Comments

PY2206160491 La Paz Television Boliviana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] The Senate has approved the 251 articles of the Electoral Law. Several senators talked about the new law. Senator Gonzalo Penaranda said all Bolivians should be happy with the Senate approval of the Electoral Law's 251 articles.

[Begin Penaranda recording] We should not forget that a real patriotic commitment was made on 5 February 1991 and President Jaime Paz Zamora who is president of all Bolivians has verified that beyond good intentions, practical efforts are being made to modernize the state. Approval of this law within the context of modernization is a great achievement for the Bolivian people; it confirms and strengthens the democratic process and the state of law in the country. I believe that with this law—which is not perfect, but can be improved with the help of the people—we have made real progress in constitutionalizing the country through deeds and not words. [end recording]

Senator Jorge Barrientos Zapata said there were no disagreements in the Senate during discussion of the articles.

[Begin Barrientos recording] Early this morning, at 0130, we concluded discussion of the 251 articles contained in 58 chapters in addition to 10 temporary articles, which together make up this document. I would like to point out the attitude of all congressmen, especially the chiefs of the different political blocs, who approved the law and passed it on to the executive branch for promulgation. They have stated that the new law is a juridical instrument for modernizing electoral regulations and for giving back to the electorate their right to trust an instrument that will allow them to make an easier, more honest choice than in the past. [end recording]

The law will be submitted to the executive branch this afternoon for promulgation in the next few days.

Memorandum on Energy Signed With Chile

PY2206192291 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1913 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Excerpts] La Paz, 21 Jun (EFE)—The Bolivian and Chilean Governments today established a political framework for private enterprises from both countries to set in motion an ambitious energy integration project following the signing of a historic memorandum of understanding.

Bolivian Energy and Hydrocarbons Minister Angel Zannier said: "The memorandum states that the Chilean Government is opening its markets to possible energy offers, and that the Bolivian Government is offering surplus natural gas."

Jaime Toh, Chilean National Energy Commission president, said: "We have signed an agreement to promote development of the two countries on the basis of an initiative by the private sector, which will be in charge of determining the feasibility of the projects."

At the end of Toh's courtesy visit, which lasted 48 hours, the two government officials signed the document, the first to be signed between the two governments since June 1978. [passage omitted]

The talks began in November 1990 when Zannier and Toh attended a meeting of Latin American Energy Organization (Olade) energy ministers in Brazil. They met in Santiago in December and in Santa Cruz in May, when they signed memorandums of understanding.

The memorandum of understanding signed today reiterates "the common objective of promoting the transport and use of Bolivian natural gas in northern Chile in future projects that will be subject to market conditions and must be implemented by Chilean and Bolivian private enterprises or by private enterprises from third countries."

A joint technical commission has studied the construction of a 1,128 km gas pipeline linking the township of Caigua, in Bolivia's southern Tarija Department, with Tocopilla, Chile, 150 km north of Antofagasta. Private enterprises from both countries will invest some $523 million for daily exports of approximately 80 to 100 million cubic feet. [sentence as received]

Beni Committee Protests Antidrug Operations

PY2206165291 La Paz Radio Fides Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Jun 91

[Juan Carlos Sambrana relay from Beni]

[Text] The Beni Civic Committee yesterday lodged a protest with the government in light of abuses committed during antidrug operations. The civic committee requested, however, the continuation of antidrug operations so as to eradicate nacrotrafficking.

In a statement signed by a majority of executives representing regional institutions, the civic committee declared the department in a state of emergency in order to protest proceedings involving narcotics operations that were carried out in four cities of Beni Department this week. The latest narcotics operation against small airplanes was carried out in San Joaquin.

The civic committee criticized the DEA and adopted (?two) decisions:

1. The government is asked to clarify whether or not improvement of the Trinidad airport is subject to the installation of a DEA military base.

2. To demand that the DEA remove its agents from the [name indistinct] hotel in the downtown district.

The civic committee asserts that DEA agents commit abuses and immoral actions in the hotel. In light of this, the civic committee demands that DEA agents leave this hotel and be sent to the Umopar [Mobile Rural Patrol Unit] barracks on the outskirts of Trinidad.

The drastic position adopted by the Beni Civic Committee has obtained the immediate backing of many local sectors. It has been reported that protest demonstrations will be staged until DEA agents leave this hotel. Reports state that the DEA has rented an entire floor for its agents [words indistinct] the police cannot enter the floor or identify the individuals in question.

Correction to 'Normal' Road Situation

PY1706204191

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Road Situation Called 'Normal'," published in the 18 June Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 21, column two:

Paragraph two, sentence two, make read...nationwide. We have observed that the rank-and-file peasants...(deleting "not")

Brazil

Collor Interviewed After Return From U.S. Visit 'Turning Point'

PY2206015291 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] President Fernando Collor returned to Brasilia today after a four-day official visit to the United States. His plane landed at the Brasilia Air Base at 0850 and the president went directly to his residence at Dinda House. At 1030, the president went to Planalto Palace, where he met with Justice Minister Jarbas Passarinho and the so-called household ministers.

In an interview right after he stepped off the helicopter here at Planalto Palace, the president assessed his four-day trip to the United States, stressing that the visit marked a turning point in the relationship between the two countries and that he expects positive results for Brazil's development in the medium term .

[Collor] "I can say that my visit has had positive results because it marks a turning point in our country's relationship with the United States. They are now entering a more mature, more realistic, more pragmatic, and more objective phase. I expect the results over the medium term will be beneficial for our development and the consolidation of our economic reforms."

As for the foreign debt negotiations, President Collor said the Senate's approval of the agreement for the payment of overdue interest on the foreign debt gave the government a big boost to begin the second phase of talks with creditors.

[Collor] "That approval will allow us to initiate the second phase of negotiations with the IMF, private creditor banks, and the Paris Club."

Regarding trade, President Collor said we need to advance under the GATT agreement, which is administered from offices in Geneva, Switzerland. Through this international organ Brazil will be able to break the developed countries' protectionism against the sale of Brazilian products. President Collor said an agreement was not reached in the Uruguay Round held this past December because of the intransigence shown by representatives from some countries, but that negotiations will be resumed.

[Collor] "Now those negotiations will be resumed under the GATT to see if they can gain access to some markets with some of our products that can be competitive."

In the area of technology transfer, the president stressed that the new adjustments made by the government will point the way to further structural reforms. He also pointed out that the government will maintain absolute austerity in monetary and fiscal policy so the country can secure a definite economic stability.

Discusses Trade, Other Issues

PY2206225491 Sao Paulo Sistema Brasileiro de Televisao in Portuguese 2250 GMT 21 Jun 91

["Exclusive" interview with President Fernando Collor by reporter Boris Casoy at Planalto Palace in Brasilia on 21 June—recorded; monitored in progress]

[Text] [Collor] ...to work. I believe that the signing of this agreement [preceding word in English] in the United

States is very significant because it means putting into practice the ideas contained in the U.S. President's Americas Initiative. For the first time the proposals of the Americas Initiative are being put into practice at the same time as we here in the Southern Cone are making a tremendous effort to integrate our economies. This is why the four countries I have already mentioned, including Brazil and the United States, have signed a sort of complementary agreement which seeks to harmonize the proposals contained in the Americas Initiative and the integration proposals of the Mercosur [Common Market of the South]. This is a very positive point of view agreed on after a lot of negotiations which were crowned with the singing of the agreement in the White House garden the day before yesterday.

[Casoy] Mr. President, are there any indications that our overall foreign debt will be reduced?

[Collor] Yes. This is one of the alternatives I have just mentioned. The reduction of the debt would be part of the so-called Brady Plan. This plan provides for a reduction of some of the foreign debt, so this possibility must also be taken into account. This is one of the many alternatives we will now be able to focus our full attention on and consider. The first step has been taken in the renegotiation of overdue payments on the interest on our foreign debt: the approval of this plan by a significant majority of the Federal Senate.

[Casoy] What about the problems Brazil has had in getting its goods into the U.S. market?

[Collor] This is one of the issues I raised. When I arrived in the United States, I was asked what Brazil was going to request. I said Brazil had not come to beg. What Brazil wants is to be treated as an equal by its partners.

Now, if Brazil is showing signs of opening by opening its markets, its borders, it obviously wants its partners to adopt a similar attitude. This is absolutely normal. If we allow other countries' products into our market with increasingly lower tax rates, we expect our partners to follow suit with our products.

A second issue we emphasized was that we are seeking the international community's recognition of the enormous effort and sacrifice being made by the Brazilian Society and Government to stabilize our economy. Brazil has no chance of enjoying sustained growth, a growth that will promote a more even income distribution and, consequently, social justice. If we cannot stabilize our economy, this means we must definitely get rid of the specter of inflation, for which we must continue to adjust our structural changes and maintain an austere fiscal and monetary policy so we can soon enjoy a sustained economic growth which is not based on artificial measures. As we have seen in the past, artificial measures do not yield effective results nor benefit the entire Brazilian society.

[Casoy] Mr. President, do you think that as a result of your visit the U.S. Government will encourage U.S. businesses to invest more in Brazil?

[Collor] In 1989, Latin America received foreign investments totaling $12 billion. Of this $12 billion, $9 billion was invested in Mexico, Venezuela, and Chile. The remaining $3 billion was invested in the rest of the Latin American countries, including Brazil. In 1989, Brazil received only about $500 million in foreign investment, which is very little, very little [Collor repeats himself].

Why did this happen? Because at that time Brazil was no longer attractive to foreign investors. Now our situation has improved somewhat. What we have to understand, my friends, is that those people who have money to invest are not going to give their capital as charity. By investing their capital in a country, they create job opportunities. They will undoubtedly promote the development of our economy and they will promote prosperity, but they also want to profit from the risk they are taking. As soon as they lose confidence in the economy of a certain country, they look for other countries.

Therefore, despite the fact that we are aware of Brazil's great potential, of the enormous work effort and capacity of the creative and determined Brazilian worker, if we do not have a stable economy and cannot guarantee that the rules will not change at the speed at which they have been changing these past years, investors will seek other markets.

To once again become attractive to foreign investors, we need to become increasingly self-sufficient. We must do our own work; we can no longer wait for other nations to salute our country for the mere fact that Brazil is a rich country, potentially speaking. As I have already said, we have working power and a willingness to grow. However, so Brazil can once again be attractive and able to bring in the foreign investment necessary for our development process, we need to do much more: We need to clearly demonstrate that we are capable of solving our own problems.

[Casoy] Mr. President, do you think it is only up to Brazil? The world today seems to be turning its back on Latin America because capitalists seem more interested in Eastern Europe.

[Collor] We must overcome this fear. I believe that now that the ideological world and the Berlin Wall have collapsed, all of us democratic countries must help the East European countries to recover, consolidate their democratic processes, and revive their economies.

[Casoy] But not to our detriment.

[Collor] Look, even Brazil participated in the Paris Club's decision to pardon part of the debt which a friendly country like Poland had with Brazil. Brazil participated in this effort, which is aimed at helping Poland's economy recover quickly. However, there is not much to fear—if that is the right word to use—regarding

the greater attraction East Europe may have for capitalists, because they still lack a commercial mentality there. They lack this mentality because of 40, 50, or 70 years of a very harsh regime, a very centralized regime, an absolutely centralized regime. Prices have not been a daily problem for those people. They do not have a commercial mentality, and they do not know anything about prices, inflation, competitiveness, or good quality products.

It will take some time before this mentality sets in—although we hope it will not be too long—unlike in Brazil, where we already have a very strong industrial structure designed for the future, for modern times, for development. All we have to do is stabilize our economy internally. We need to settle our internal accounts and balance our budget; we cannot live by always spending more than we collect. It is quite incredible that, for the first time in 50 years under a republican system, the government's accounts are only now showing a surplus. We have always spent more than we have collected, and we all know that the difference has to come from somewhere.

[Casoy] What about the nuclear issue? Did you discuss whether Brazil should sign the nonproliferation treaty or Brazil's efforts to acquire modern technology, subjects related to the military agreement?

[Collor] Look, there is no such Brazilian-U.S. military agreement nor anything of that sort to be looked into or even commented on. I do not know where the idea that we would reach a military agreement came from. There is no kind of military agreement being discussed by Brazil and the United States. What we would like is to have access to modern technology, technology that would lessen the huge gap that currently separates the developed countries with capital and technological know-how and the developing countries, which have neither capital nor access....

[Casoy, interrupting] But they are afraid we may use it to produce bombs, for example.

[Collor] Look, Brazil has already clearly and definitively demonstrated its position in the nuclear field by unilaterally renouncing its right, according to the Tlatelolco Treaty, to conduct nuclear tests for peaceful purposes. It sounds strange that the treaty should contain this sort of article, as if Brazil or any other country could carry out nuclear tests for peaceful purposes. We have unilaterally renounced this right, and we also signed with Argentine President Carlos Menem the Iguacu Treaty, which provides for mutual verification of our respective nuclear programs. Moreover, in September in Vienna we will sign a protocol with the International Atomic Energy Agency which will allow this international organization to verify nuclear activities in Brazil and Argentina.

[Casoy] This means that the issue is quite clear?

[Collor] Absolutely clear.

[Casoy] We will have access to modern technology.

[Collor] This is our hope. Naturally, I cannot assert that we will acquire it. I have no expectations because it is a very sensitive, very delicate issue which is subject to innumerable negotiations, especially after the Persian Gulf war, which made us all very aware of the need to build world peace. It is a very sensitive subject that will require many meetings, many talks, and a mature relationship.

[Casoy] President Collor, thank you very much for receiving us here at Planalto Palace. We hope that all of Brazil will benefit from your visit to the United States.

[Collor] God willing.

[Casoy] Thank you very much and good night.

[Collor] Good night.

Police Director Comments on Escobar Arrest

PY2306012291 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 0040 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Interview with Federal Police Director Romeu Tuma by Globo Anchorman Celso Araujo in a "special report" on Colombian drug trafficking on the "Globo Reporter" program—live]

[Text] [Araujo] Do you believe that the Medellin Cartel's activities in Brazil will decrease following the arrest of Pablo Escobar in Colombia?

[Tuma] No, I believe that narcoterrorism, which has caused great losses for the Colombian people, may decrease. But drug trafficking is forcing us to implement tougher controls. The Medellin Cartel may experience a schism, and we must be more alert because new cartel chiefs may appear.

[Araujo] The most well-known Brazilian cocaine traffickers have been arrested. However, it is also well known that they continue to direct drug trafficking operations from jail. Will the same thing happen with Pablo Escobar?

[Tuma] The Colombian Government made a political decision on the arrest of the drug baron—although I doubt he will be identified as such in prison. Practically the whole world is observing Escobar's behavior in prison. Therefore, we believe he will be unable to command operations from jail. But because such operations are possible, the Colombian Government will focus its attention on preventing it.

[Araujo] Thank you very much, Mr. Romeu Tuma, and good night.

[Tuma] Good night.

Minister Briefs Congress on Uranium Program

PY2306020091 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 18 Jun 91 Section 1 p 5

[Text] Brasilia—Navy Minister Mario Cesar Flores reported yesterday that the Navy has already installed 650 ultracentrifuges for enriching uranium in Ipero. He made this disclosure to a joint congressional committee charged with investigating the obsolescence of the Brazilian industry.

Flores said the Navy plans to install 5,000 ultracentrifuges for enriching uranium to produce fuel for a Brazilian nuclear submarine.

Flores added that an industrial unit—"in fact a small industry, or a large laboratory, if you will"—will be set up this year by the Navy in Ipero, where the ultracentrifuges will be installed.

The Navy minister noted that the Navy has spent $418 million on its nuclear program aimed at building a nuclear submarine. Of this amount, $185 million was spent in researching the nuclear fuel cycle and $233 million on the reactor for the submarine.

Flores reported that the Navy put aside 3.5 percent of its 1990- 91 budget to scientific research in general; that is, .05 percent of the Federal Government's total budget. Next year the Navy plans to increase this percentage to 7 percent of its budget, of which 5.7 percent will be specifically set aside for the nuclear area.

Flores noted that, according to the Navy's plans, the nuclear reactor prototype was to be ready by 1994, but "there was some shortage of resources" and the prototype is now expected to be ready by 1995. "This will be a prototype of the reactor because we still do not even have a design for the nuclear submarine," he said.

The minister reaffirmed that the Navy's nuclear research "is not and has never been aimed at making a bomb." He said that funds for nuclear research "should be allocated through ministries, with a specific objective, and under close public scrutiny."

Flores said the Argentine-Brazilian nuclear cooperation agreement "and its mechanisms for mutual control have given further assurances to other countries that Argentina and Brazil are not planning to build a bomb." In his opinion, the agreement has also been instrumental in averting international pressure against Brazil to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

National Indian Foundation Leader Fired

PY2406025891 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 22 Jun 91

[Text] Edivio Battistelli, National Indian Foundation [Funai] superintendent, has been installed as acting president of Funai. He replaces Cantidio Guerreiro Guimaraes, who was fired by Justice Minister Jarbas Passarinho acting on a request by President Collor de Mello. According to Passarinho, President Collor set a deadline for Funai to demarcate the area set aside for the Ianomami Indians in Roraima, but nothing has been done in over 60 days.

[Begin Passarinho recording] The decision to replace Guerreiro was made at a meeting with the president of the Republic. The dismissal was prompted primarily by the fact that a decree was signed on 19 April establiishing a 180-day deadline for demarcating land set aside for the Ianomami Indians and today, 21 June, two months after the signing of the decree, the Funai president's explanations for the delay are unacceptable to us. We concluded that more action is needed to meet the deadline; thus, we decided that we cannot waste the remaining four months and we should regain the lost time through more effective leadership. [end recording]

Federal Police Chief Romeu Tuma also announced that next week, the government will resume bombing clandestine landing strips in Roraima. Since the government discontinued its bombing of clandestine landing strips in December 1990, gold prospectors have managed to rebuild 20 of them. The Federal Police estimate that over 3,000 gold prospectors have again invaded the Ianomami Indians' land; 200 policemen will go to Roraima to destroy the landing strips. Any prospector or pilot will be arrested and removed from the area.

Central Bank Issues Regulations on Profits

PY2206030691 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Beto Almeida report]

[Text] The Central Bank announced in a resolution issued yesterday that all foreign companies that transferred more profits and dividends to their parent companies than reported on their balance sheets will be punished.

The objective of this measure is to discourage multinational companies from making illegal remittances of dividends in view of recent decisions which are aimed at clarifying foreign investment regulations in Brazil and making investment more attractive.

Any sum remitted that is greater than reported on the balance sheets must be purchased by the multinational company at the exchange rate for tourists, which is more expensive than the market exchange rate, and deposited in the Central Bank. The Central Bank will later return this sum in cruzeiros at a lower exchange rate.

Chile

More on Malaysian Foreign Minister Visit

Support Expressed for Policy

BK2206103091 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0957 GMT 22 Jun 91

[By Abdul Rahman Sulaiman]

[Text] Santiago, June 22 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Chile has assured Malaysia of its full support for its attempt to prevent the adoption of an international convention to restrict and control logging of tropical forests.

The assurance was given by the Chilean Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma during a meeting with Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi here Saturday.

A spokesman of the Malaysian delegation accompanying Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed on his five-day official visit here told newsmen that Chile understood fully Malaysia's concern over the matter as the country itself was involved in logging of temperate forests.

The spokesman pointed out that Malaysia's fear over the possibilities was generated from the on-going move by developed countries to adopt such a convention at the upcoming UN conference on environment scheduled to be held in Brazil next year. He said such a move would certainly undermine the economies of timber producing countries, of which Malaysia was one of the biggest.

Mahathir Ends Visit

BK2406102291 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0955 GMT 24 Jun 91

[By Abdul Rahman Sulaiman]

[Text] Santiago, June 24 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed has expressed full satisfaction at the outcome of his five-day official visit to Chile which ended here Sunday.

A Malaysia-Chile joint communique issued shortly before his departure here for Rio De Janeiro said Dr. Mahathir and his host, President Patricio Aylwin, noted the similarity of views of both countries on most issues, including their common commitment to democracy.

They expressed their mutual desire to further enhance the growing bilateral relations between the two countries, especially in the field of trade.

The communique said both the prime minister and the president agreed to examine ways and means of establishing direct air and sea links between the two countries to facilitate trade and people-to- people contact.

They agreed on the need for both countries to co-operate at all international fora to ensure the maintenance of the system which they felt is important for global economic growth.

Noting the importance of co-operation among developing countries, both leaders pledged to support efforts towards greater South-South cooperation as a means of promoting economic growth in developing countries.

On international issues, the two leaders had a useful exchange of views on the latest development in different parts of the world.

They shared the view that given the dramatic changes that have taken place recently, there is a need for the Non-Aligned Movement to take stock of the changes and reorientate itself to the new reality.

They agreed that both countries should work together within the movement to ensure its effectiveness and relevance.

President Aylwin accepted the Dr. Mahathir's invitation to visit Malaysia.

The prime minister, accompanied by his wife Dr. Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, several cabinet ministers, senior government officials and 70 Malaysian businessmen, is scheduled to fly to the Brazilian city Monday for the second leg of his South American tour which will also take him to Argentina.

German Leader's October Visit Called 'Important'

PY2206143891 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] Germany's Ambassador to Chile Wiegand Pabsch said today that an upcoming visit by Chancellor Helmut Kohl will be the first by a German head of government to Chile and therefore, it has special meaning. The German ambassador visited the Foreign Ministry and discussed items of Kohl's visit, which will take place in October, with Under Secretary Edmundo Vargas. The German diplomat said that during Kohl's visit, the governments will discuss the possibility of signing an agreement on the development and protection of private investments and an agreement to prevent double taxation.

Asked about the importance of the visit, Pabsch said:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] What is the meaning of this visit? I understand it is the first time a German chancellor is to visit Chile.

[Pabsch] I think it is the first visit to Chile by a German head of government. I think President Lubke visited the country in the 1950's and German foreign ministers have also visited the country, but this is the first visit by the head of government. We think it is very important and the Chilean Government agrees. [end recording]

Kohl's presence in Chile will be a symbol of good relations, as was President Patricio Aylwin's visit to

Bonn earlier this year. Links are now clear of the heavy shadow that hindered our good relations in the past.

The Supreme Court decision confirming cancellation of Dignidad Colony's legal status and President Aylwin's decision were noted by the German ambassador:

[Begin recording] I have read in the newspapers that the Supreme Court has decided on the issue. I did not have any doubt that the president had a right to act on this matter. I am a jurist, but not a Chilean jurist. I cannot judge this act. It is an important decision. [end recording]

Regarding the action against the Dignidad Colony directors and other individuals in Bonn, Pabsch said there was nothing new. Pabsch added that the trial suffered from a lack of incriminating evidence to establish responsibility for the charges brought against them.

Political Prisoners Lift Hunger Strike

PY2306035091 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Jun 91

[Text] The 23-day-old hunger strike observed by 93 political prisoners in jails around the country was lifted at noon on 22 June.

[Begin unidentified female political prisoner recording] Today, 22 June, we decided to lift our hunger strike for freedom and reintegration into society because we believe we have made significant progress toward achieving our freedom.

In fact, we can see the progress we have made in pardons and proposals for setting a deadline on the endless court proceedings, as well as the fact that the government has assumed its responsibility for the reintegration into society of political prisoners, both men and women, as they get out of jail.

Second [as heard], we declare that this progress has been attained under the legislative and juridical rules the government imposed on us, rules which have so far not resolved our demand for freedom.

Consequently, once again the true desire of the government is to guarantee the effective freedom of all the political prisoners, both men and women, has yet to be proved. [end recording]

Thus ended a drama in jails around the country which lasted for more than three weeks, endangering the life of 93 political prisoners.

The government immediately responded, saying that its initial position has not changed simply because the hunger strike was lifted.

[Begin unidentified government official recording] The government will pursue all the legal, juridical, and administrative mechanisms available to solve as soon as possible the problems of pardoned political prisoners. [end recording]

[Name indistinct] added that the Justice Ministry is working to solve the problem of the reintegration of these people, especially those who have been in jail for a long time and cannot avail themselves of any worker's benefits. [end recording]

Some 10 political prisoners who were on hunger strike are in a delicate state of health, but all of them refused to be transferred to a medical assistance center in the belief that they can fully recover their good health in the jails.

Minister Comments on Situation of PCCh

PY2306024291 Santiago Radio Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] Justice Minister Francisco Cumplido has said that the Communist Party of Chile [PCCh] is facing serious political difficulties because it resorted to the armed struggle for some time. Minister Cumplido made these comments at La Moneda in reference to the attitude of the relatives of political prisoners and the hunger strike being staged by the prisoners themselves.

He said this attitude is senseless because the government has already adopted the measures necessary to accelerate the process. We are against the hunger strike because it represents an attempt against life, he said. If we are to fight for more respect for human rights, we cannot accept this absurd decision to resort to a hunger strike, he added.

Regarding criticism by PCCh member Jose Sanfuentes and his charges that the government has mocked the heroism of the political prisoners on hunger strike, Minister Cumplido said:

[Begin Cumplido recording] The PCCh has a very serious political problem because, as we all know, they resorted to the armed fight for some time. They are now in jail and being tried for that. I understand that this creates a political problem for them. They mostly want their situation to be swiftly resolved because, as they do not have representatives in Congress, they want to be part of the national political scenario. We reject their attitude and cannot agree to these methods, particularly because they represent a risk to the life and integrity of human beings.

I believe the government has complied with its government program. The PCCh may not support this program, but we have done our best to comply with it. [end recording]

The justice minister pointed out that the government has pardoned 20 political prisoners since the constitutional reform. He added that the president of the Republic will make a decision on the situation of eight other prisoners today or next week.

Minister Cumplido stated emphatically that the government cannot put an end to the hunger strike but can simply adopt the necessary measures to assist those who require medical treatment.

Senate Approves Economic Reform Package

PY2106204691 Santiago Radio Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Excerpts] Economy Minister Carlos Ominami has asserted that the Senate modifications to the economic reform package did not change the essence of the measures that basically improved the exchange rate. The Senate modifications establish that fuels will be taxed at 40 percent instead of the original 50 percent rate. It also establishes that this tax increase will not result in higher fuel prices because the cost will be absorbed by the Fund for Stabilization of Fuel Prices, which was recently created.

[Begin Ominami recording] These modifications do not change anything. Congress agreed to the appropriateness of the government's proposal. [passage omitted] [end recording]

The economic reform bill submitted to Congress by the executive branch can be promulgated by President Aylwin within the next 24 hours. This is possible because Congress found a swift solution to the alleged unconstitutionality of the article allowing reduced customs fees in favor the north and south of the country and Easter Island. The committee decided to transfer the controversial article to the pending bill being discussed by the Senate Finance Committee, which refers to Iquique's free zone. Therefore, the law can be promulgated at any time.

The bill reduces custom fees on imports from 15 to 11 percent, increases fuel taxes, and adds taxes to the law on seals and stamps for foreign credits.

Policemen Injured as Dismissed Workers Riot

PY2206161491 Santiago Radio Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 21 Jun 91

[By Rodolfo Munoz from Rancagua]

[Excerpts] Rancagua Regional Intendent Juan Ramon Nunez Valenzuela has released a public communique on the riots staged in Rancagua streets by 1,300 workers who were dismissed by Eulogio Gordo Company. The riots began when workers tried to block Brazil and San Martin Streets and trespass in shops. The workers also broke some Rancagua Court windowpanes. The intendent pointed out:

[Begin Nunez recording] It must be said that we have done our best to help the workers. We have held meetings and sought favorable solutions to the problem. [passage omitted]

The regional administration is convinced that the workers are being used against President Aylwin's administration, Codelco [Copper Corporation], and themselves. No one mentions Mr. Gordo, however, who is the boss. [end recording]

During the riots, two policemen were injured and seven people were arrested for damaging public and private property. It has been unofficially reported that 10 workers were injured.

National PDC Meeting Postponed Until Jul

PY2206032491 Santiago Radio Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Summary] Andres Saldivar, president of the Christian Democratic Party, PDC, has reported at Congress in Valparaiso that his party's national assembly, which was going to be held this weekend, has been postponed. Due to the tragedy that hit Antofagasta, the meeting was rescheduled to take place from 5 to 7 July.

Colombia

Further on Airspace 'Violations' by DEA Plane

PA2106144791 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Report by Diego Hernan Canal]

[Text] The presence of the U.S. Hercules C-130, that overflew Colombian airspace without authorization to participate in a chase operation, continues without any explanation from military authorities. The Veiticuatro Horas newscast has obtained new evidence of Colombian airspace violations by U.S. aircraft.

These pictures, recorded by an amateur in Tulua, have become new evidence of the presence of the Hercules airplane, belonging to the U.S. DEA, in Colombian airspace. The U.S. plane participated in the chase of a small plane which was forced to land in Pereira on 16 June.

This photograph shows the moment when all four airplanes were over Tulua. The Colombian Air Force [FAC] and Civil Aeronautics have maintained silence on the matter, only admitting to the presence of two FAC Mirage jets and the plane being chased.

Veiticuatro Horas was able to establish that the U.S. plane entered the country across the Ecuadoran border and flew over the eastern part of the country. It remained in Pereira for 45 minutes and did not respond to calls from the control tower, which were recorded on a tape that has yet to be released by the country's aviation authorities.

Gaviria Asks U.S. Not To 'Meddle' With Escobar

PA2306232991 Paris AFP in Spanish 2118 GMT 23 Jun 91

[Text] Bogota, 23 Jun (AFP)—Liberal Colombian President Cesar Gaviria, 44, stated today that when Pablo Escobar surrendered to Colombian justice in Envigado, 500 km northwest of Bogota, last Wednesday "it was the end of narco-terrorism."

In a statement to the morning newspaper EL TIEMPO of Bogota, the chief of state noted that cocaine trafficking "from our country has ostensibly diminished, while it has increased from other nations of the area."

Gaviria said that the government's policy of submitting drug traffickers to Colombian justice "is successful" and he reiterated that the trial against Escobar "must be severe," after explaining that otherwise there will be difficulties with the international community."

After defending his policy against narco-trafficking, Gaviria said that it is successful and must be evaluated based on its results.

He said that Escobar's surrender is the end of narco-terrorism, which caused so many deaths and so much damage to the country over the past few years. He expressed his confidence that it will signify peace for Colombian society.

Gaviria noted that Escobar's submission is a severe blow to narco-trafficking and signifies the dismantling of the so-called Medellin Cartel.

President Gaviria expressed his confidence that the United States will not meddle or take any measure against Colombia in light of its refusal to extradite Escobar.

Gaviria on Escobar Surrender, Freedom of Press

PA2206153691 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1213 GMT 22 Jun 91

[Text] Manizalez—Last night President Cesar Gaviria Trujillo broached three important issues for the country; namely, the right to reply, Pablo Escobar Gaviria's surrender, and the role the international community should play in the struggle against drug trafficking.

The Colombian president, who spoke during an event marking the 70th anniversary of LA PATRIA newspaper, said that the article on the right to reply is worded in an ambiguous and vague manner, thus leaving the doors open to press censorship. The media cannot be subjected indiscriminately to a bombardment of replies by the leadership of those opposition parties and movements that consider themselves targets of public attack, Gaviria said. He added that if the public media are forced to publish a reply, it would create a situation of unpredictable consequences, which would be in open violation of the right to report freely.

President Gaviria also talked about the surrender of Medellin Cartel leader Pablo Emilio Escobar Gaviria, saying that it is a triumph for the country in its long history of struggles against drug trafficking. The goal of Colombian justice is to have those who have committed crimes in jail and serving a sentence in accordance with the crimes committed. We must also have the proper security measures to protect the lives of the prisoners and keep them from escaping justice, he said.

The president added that the Envigado jail has no luxuries, but is rather rustic and highly secure. Inside and outside the jail there are no luxuries, and it is a place where no one would like to spend a single night.

The president also talked about how Escobar's prison guards were selected. According to Gaviria, two things were taken into consideration: that they be qualified to guard those who must serve a sentence, and that they not be a threat to the prisoner.

In conclusion, Gaviria said that if the international community wishes to rid itself of drug trafficking, it must assume its responsibility and struggle against the demand for drugs and the appearance of new production centers. The Colombian Government's determination to fight drug trafficking is strong, he said, and no one can say that what has been done here to date has been done by any other country in the world.

Pablo Escobar's Brother Surrenders to Authorities

PA2106164091 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1622 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] Bogota, 21 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Drug trafficker Roberto Escobar Gaviria, brother of the Medellin Cartel kingpin, and Gustavo Gonzalez Flores, head of the organization's killers, surrendered this morning to Colombian authorities.

According to the report, the two Medellin Cartel members surrendered near the town of Envigado, site of the jail where Pablo Escobar Gaviria is imprisoned.

The two drug traffickers were transferred in vehicles to the prison, which is located 10 km south of Medellin and where drug kingpin Escobar Gaviria arrived on 19 June.

Seven of the Medellin Cartel kingpin's lieutenants have turned themselves in since the surrender of Escobar Gaviria, who announced yesterday that 12 members of the organization will eventually surrender.

Escobar Vows Not To Traffic Drugs From Prison

PA2306224591 Paris AFP in Spanish 2110 GMT 23 Jun 91

[Text] Envigado, Colombia, Jun 23 (AFP)—Pablo Escobar, the self-confessed Medellin Cartel drug kingpin, revealed today that he will not push drugs from Envigado penitentiary, where he has been held since he voluntarily surrendered to Colombian authorities on 19 June.

In a hand-written letter, bearing his signature and fingerprint, delivered to an EL TIEMPO newspaper correspondent, Escobar, 41, promised publicly neither to continue to traffic in cocaine from behind bars nor to have front men or drug sellers on the streets.

In his letter, the drug kingpin charges that several policemen who protect members of other cartels have

included him on "wanted" posters to execute him "as they did with some of my companions and friends."

Escobar added: "These same policemen are telling the international media that I am going to traffic in drugs from jail. They are giving these reports to international authorities to justify the movement of drugs into other countries."

Escobar, held in a top security jail in Envigado, 40 km from Medellin, Antioquia Province's capital city, turned himself in to Colombian authorities through the good offices of Father Rafael Garcia Herreros, who guaranteed his surrender.

The drug kingpin reaffirmed that he will observe the authorities' sentence in exchange for not being extradited to the United States.

'Dozens' Visit Escobar; More Surrenders Possible

PA2206034791 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] The jail of the cathedral—we want to make it clear that it is called the cathedral because that is the name of the farm where this high-security jail is located, in Envigado, Antioquia Department. As of three days ago, this jail has become the object of pilgrimage for the curious and friends of Pablo Escobar Gaviria. Dozens of officials and friends have joined the long line of visitors, led by Escobar Gaviria's mother—many have even come bearing gifts.

While Escobar Gaviria and three of his most trusted men are inside the Envigado jail, outside the media has awaited the arrival of other cartel members. There has been talk that at least 16 more persons are going to surrender. From the outside the goings-on inside the jail are a complete mystery. There are rumors that Escobar is making a list of guests who can visit him. Among them, of course, are his closest relatives.

At 1815, the reporters' attention was drawn to a caravan of vehicles traveling up the ragged hill to the site of an Army checkpoint. At the checkpoint the faster vehicles slowed. Inside one of the vehicles was Valentin Taborda, the fifth man to turn himself in. Meanwhile, it was learned that traveling in one of the other vehicles was Escobar Gaviria's mother, his wife, and his two children. At the end of the caravan was a truck loaded with very well hidden food supplies, while another vehicle transported a refrigerator.

During the long wait, night fell, while inside the jail Escobar and his men gave their depositions before a judge in the presence of Marta Luz Hurtado, Antioquia's director of criminal instruction. Meanwhile, below, the city slept peacefully.

Government, Guerrillas Continue Peace Talks

'Profound Differences' on Cease-Fire

PA2206194991 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Jun 91

[Report from Caracas by Radio Cadena Nacional special envoy Francisco Tulande]

[Text] The peace talks between the Colombian Government and the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board [CNGSB] face their biggest obstacle today. The two parties have announced that there are profound differences over how to achieve a cease-fire. The biggest differences lie in the issue of the so-called demilitarized areas where the CNGSB forces would withdraw to if a cease-fire is reached. On 21 June, these differences virtually caused a break in the second phase of the talks. CNGSB spokesmen accused the government delegation of maintaining a stubborn attitude on the matter of the demarcation of the demilitarized areas, and said that the lack of a true political will has hindered the talks.

Peace adviser Jesus Bejarano announced on 21 June that the differences between the two parties regarding this issue forced the postponement of the talks. The rebels are willing to sign a bilateral cease-fire as of 1 July; however, they want their members to remain at the 100 fronts they have throughout Colombia. Bejarano said that on 15 July, the delegations will resume their talks on the demilitarized areas and that the next three days of talks in Venezuela will be spent on defining the establishment of national and international commissions for the verification of a cease-fire agreement. The government is against the CNGSB's suggestion that its members remain at the 100 fronts that currently exist, because no one can guarantee that they will not double their forces once the cease-fire agreement is reached, Bejarano said.

Ivan Marquez, representative of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, said that there are insurmountable obstacles in the government's stubborn position. He said that the Colombian Government hardened its position after Bejarano held talks in Bogota during the five-day truce. The real power in Colombia—that is how we describe the Armed Forces—has made its influence felt in these negotiations, Marquez said. He added that little will be achieved in the next few days of talks in Venezuela.

Sources close to the talks have said that Bejarano was forced to harden the government's position in light of the pressure exerted by the Colombian Armed Forces. The Armed Forces oppose a bilateral cease-fire, which is what the CNGSB is demanding, until the rebels promise to abide by a series of strategic and military conditions. Bejarano and Marquez agreed that the negotiating parties must show their trust in that the talks are serious and aimed at attaining a peace agreement.

The next three days of talks, which are being held at the Institute for Advanced Studies located 40 km south of Caracas, will be spent discussing collateral matters to reach a cease-fire, which does not seem to be close at hand in light of the profound differences between the negotiators.

Gaviria Urges Closed Talks

PA2306220791 Paris AFP in Spanish 2051 GMT 23 Jun 91

[Text] Bogota, 23 Jun (AFP)—Colombian President Cesar Gaviria said today that the peace talks being held in Caracas with the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board (CNGSB) will have to be conducted at a certain time "behind closed doors, without invited commissions" so as to avoid limitations.

The dialogue with the CNGSB, which has approximately 8,000 men of the pro-communist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and the pro-Guevara Army of National Liberation (ELN) that merged last year, "should take place behind closed doors to avoid so many participants who restrict these discussions."

In statements to the Bogota morning newspaper EL TIEMPO, the Colombian president stressed that for now, his government is not willing to reach a cease-fire with the CNGSB. He also expressed hope that the dialogue will not break up during its initial phase.

President Gaviria stated that the dialogue should be held in a reserved manner so that the negotiations can advance and the different viewpoints can be more clearly explained, "because speaking before so many participants imposes restrictions on the negotiations."

Gaviria said: "We are not willing to reach a cease-fire that will be impossible to verify, in which, a few days after being implemented, there will be a process of recrimination by both parties for violating it."

The president emphasized that "if we are going to reach a cease-fire, it should be one for which we can respond, that someone can verify, and that brings a real end to the hostilities, one in which we can confirm that no more criminal actions are being committed."

Gaviria stated that the Armed Forces support his dialogue policy, "because every step that we take and every decision that is followed is discussed with the Defense Minister (General Oscar Botero) and other high-ranking military officers."

24-Hour Recess Declared

PA2406032891 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1654 GMT 23 Jun 91

[Text] Caracas, 23 Jun (EFE)—The peace negotiations between the Colombian Government and the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board (CNGSB) today, 23 June, came to a 24-hour recess, after the virtual suspension of the talks over differences on the issue of the cease-fire.

The negotiating delegations have agreed to resume the talks tomorrow, 24 June, to try to advance in matters that pertain to the cease-fire, which has become the most critical issue of the discussions. The second round of conversations between the government and the CNGSB began in Venezuela on 20 June.

The peace talks between the guerrillas and the Colombian Government were virtually suspended as a result of serious differences on the cease-fire and mutual accusations of stubbornness by both negotiating parties.

The delimitation of the so-called "detente zones," where the rebels will be concentrated in the event of a cease-fire, has been the main aspect of the discussions between the guerrillas and the government delegation, led by Presidential Adviser for Peace Jesus Bejarano.

The atmosphere of cordiality of this round of talks was broken on 22 June, after accusations made by the CNGSB that the Colombian Government is preparing to launch a large military offensive throughout the country. The first round of talks was also held in Venezuela from 3 to 14 June.

"Commander" Francisco Galan of the Army of National Liberation (ELN) told the press that the Colombian Armed Forces "were mobilizing troops, preparing all the heavy logistics" to carry out a "general military operation."

Galan urged Colombian Defense Minister General Oscar Botero to suspend the "military offensive," adding that the Colombian Government and the guerrillas "cannot play two games at once," by negotiating a peace agreement and at the same time launching a large attack throughout the country.

The spokesman for the CNGSB invited Gen. Botero to travel to Venezuela and participate in the conversations between the government representatives and the guerrillas, which have virtually come to a standstill because of the differences on the issue of the cease-fire.

The report by Galan was strongly rejected by Jesus Bejarano, who denied that the government "is trying to delay the negotiations and tying this incident with the decision to launch military actions."

Bejarano stated that he does not want to give the dialogue "a bellicose atmosphere." However, he refused attempts to suggest that the government is blocking the peace talks.

The "great distance" that separate the government from the CNGSB proposal on the delimitation of the "detente zones" make the attainment of a cease-fire in this meeting very unlikely.

The CNGSB has insisted on continuing the discussion with the government to attain a cease-fire agreement by 1 July. This will be accompanied with the suspension of kidnappings, the destruction of oil pipelines, as well as other attacks on energy installations in Colombia.

Spokesmen for the Colombian Government and the CNGSB reported this morning that on 24 June they will announce the advancements achieved on the national and international verification of the peace process.

The conversations could end on 25 June and could be resumed on 15 July in Venezuela.

Miliary Not To Participate

PA2406022791 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Jun 91

[Interview with Defense Minister General Oscar Botero Restrepo by Oscar Galvis in Bogota on 23 June—recorded]

[Text] [Galvis] In the talks held in Caracas by government and guerrilla delegates, some FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] leaders have asked the defense minister to end the military operations in some regions of the country. How do you view this request?

[Botero] I think any decision must be based on an agreement. As long as the state of insecurity in Colombia continues, the military forces and the National Police must continue to operate throughout the country. That is the duty entrusted to us in the Constitution, and we will continue to fulfill it.

[Galvis] Some guerrilla leaders have said in Caracas that if you want to go to Caracas they are willing to talk to you.

[Botero] In Caracas, things are very clear and defined. We have a delegation appointed by the government to hold those talks. That is why I think there is absolutely no need for members of the military forces to be there.

[Galvis] On the matter of the cease-fire, will it be unilateral or bilateral? What is your stance?

[Botero] Subversive groups and criminal groups are disrupting public order in the country. They must put a stop to the state of convulsion in which they have thrown the country.

Gaviria To Rule on Rebel Congress Participation

PA2206210291 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Jun 91

[Text] Bogota—The National Constituent Assembly has authorized President Cesar Gaviria Trujillo to decide on the admittance of rebel groups into Congress.

The Assembly accepted delegate Angelino Garzon's proposal, and with 49 favorable votes approved two ways for the president to admit the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board [CNGSB] into the legislative branch. The president may directly appoint rebels to Congress, or provide a special voting district in which they could participate in the electoral campaign.

The Constituent Assembly decided that the number of rebels in the legislative branch will depend on the government's decision. The Constituent Assembly explained that the names of senators and representatives will be chosen by mutual agreement.

ELN Guerrillas Reportedly Kidnap 2 Congressmen

PA2306191091 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1744 GMT 23 Jun 91

[Text] Bogota, 23 Jun (EFE)—Colombian Congressmen Rafael Serrano Prada, president of the National Association of Journalists, and Mariano Porras Buitrago were kidnapped in two separate actions by guerrillas of the Army of National Liberation (ELN), their relatives reported today.

Serrano Prada disappeared on Wednesday on his way to Caracas to attend the meeting between delegates of the government and the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board (CNGSB), according to the Bucaramanga daily EL FRENTE, which he owns.

His relatives in Bucaramanga, the capital of Santander Department, confirmed his disappearance.

Serrano Prada, a member of the Social Conservative Party, heads the House of Representatives' Peace Commission, and as such was invited to the talks in Caracas between representatives of the Colombian Government and guerrilla spokesmen.

The CNGSB consists of the ELN and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC).

Serrano Prada departed Bucaramanga to go to Bogota, from where he would travel to Caracas, but he never arrived at his destination.

Meanwhile, Porras Buitrago disappeared in the neighborhood of Ciudad Kennedy in Bogota on 20 June while on personal business. Porras' car was found abandoned in southern Bogota, and the keys to the car were mailed to his family days later without any explanation.

Bogota's daily EL TIEMPO reported that the two congressmen were apparently taken hostage to witness the release of 15 policemen kidnapped by the ELN in Bolivar Department.

Congressmen Released

PA2406002891 Paris AFP in Spanish 2343 GMT 23 Jun 91

[Text] Bogota, 23 Jun (AFP)—The Colombian guerrilla group Army of National Liberation (ELN) today released safe and sound two congressmen from the Peace

Commission, who had been held for four days, Humberto Acevedo, mayor of Cisneros, Antioquia Department, has reported.

Congressmen Rafael Serrano and Mariano Porras, members of the parliamentary peace commission, which established initial contacts with a view toward the peace dialogues currently being held in Caracas between the government and the guerrillas, had been kidnapped seperately on 19 June in different parts of Bogota.

Mayor Acevedo told radio newscasts that both Serrano and Porras are in good health, although somewhat tired because "they walked quite a bit" before reaching Cisneros.

After resting at the mayor's office, both congressmen traveled to Medellin, the capital of Antioquia, where they will board a flight for Bogota.

According to the mayor, Serrano and Porras said that during their captivity they briefed the ELN northwestern front on the progress of the talks being held in the Venezuelan capital. The guerrillas expressed the wish that the talks be held without any obstacles.

CNGSB Requests Investigation of Kidnappings

PA2206192591 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Jun 91

[Text] Bogota—The Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board [CNGSB] has issued a communique addressed to the Constituent Assembly asking that a commission be formed to gather complete information on the number of people kidnapped, missing, and executed, so as to establish responsibility. In the communique, the CNGSB again expresses its willingness to agree to an immediate cease-fire with the national government, such as outlined at the negotiating table in Caracas. The commission that will gather all the information on the missing people would be made up of Colombians known to be of good moral standing.

In another turn of events, CNGSB representative Ivan Marquez said that the only solution for reaching a definite peace agreement with the Colombian Government is through political resolve. CNGSB delegate Francisco Galan reiterated that the agreement they will manage to reach with the government is an agreement with the CNGSB as a group, and not with separate subversive groups.

FARC To Release 15 Kidnapped Policemen 28 Jun

PA2206153991 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] In Caracas, the peace talks between representatives of Cesar Gaviria's government and spokespersons for the so-called Simon Bolivar Guerrilla Coordinating Board [CNGSB] continue amid moderate optimism.

Today in the Venezuelan capital, Alfonso Cano of the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] announced that 15 policemen who are now being held will be released. He confirmed that the several rebel fronts are holding 34 hostages.

Included on the list are the mayor, hospital director, and district prosecutor of Aguachica. Alfonso Cano also promised to present a similar list on 25 July, thus relieving tensions for thousands of Colombian families who have a kidnapped relative. The CNGSB also requested that the government report the whereabouts of several guerrillas who were taken as prisoners in combat, as well as those captured during the 9 December 1990 occupation of the Casa Verde headquarters.

A communique was released this morning to the Cartagena news media, in which the CNGSB said that 15 policemen who are presently being held by the FARC will be released on 28 June in the town of Achi, Bolivar Department.

Peru

Three Shining Path Leaders Reportedly Arrested

PA2406021391 Lima America Television Network in Spanish 0050 GMT 24 Jun 91

[Text] We have very good news on the struggle against the subversive elements. Early this morning, three members of the highest echelons of the Shining Path were arrested at a site that was under constant surveillance by the Directorate Against Terrorism of the Technical Police, Dilcote, in San Martin de Porres.

The three high-ranking Shining Path members arrested are: (Giovanka Parlabe Trujillo), member of the Shining Path Central Committee who appeared in a well-known video presented a few weeks ago by President Fujimori dancing to the song of Zorba the Greek with [name indistinct]; Tito Valle Travesano, lover of (Giovanka Parlabe Trujillo), one of the so-called democratic lawyers tasked with administering one of the legal front groups of the terrorist organization Shining Path; and Victor Garcia Castano, charged by police with being a very prominent member of the Shining Path Central Committee, despite being a teacher and musician in a folk music band.

Dilcote personnel arrested the Shining Path leaders early this morning in San Martin de Porres. At this moment, they are reportedly being questioned at the Dilcote headquarters. A news conference will probably be held on 25 June.

The arrest of the Shining Path leaders has facilitated the discovery of at least two sites linked with secret operations of the Shining Path. In addition, the authorities seized valuable documentation as well as propaganda leaflets and some maps of imminent Shining Path operations which have now been thwarted.

Fisheries Minister Resigns Over 'Death Threats'

PA2106140091 Lima RTP Television Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 20 Jun 91

[Text] Fisheries Minister Felix Canal Torres has irrevocably resigned because of constant death threats against him and his family. The minister told the press that this is due in part to the unfounded charges raised by Senator Luis Bedoya.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Minister Canal, you have just announced that you have resigned. What is the main reason for this decision?

[Canal] It is mainly because there is an ill-intended campaign trying to mar the prestige I have earned after so many years of hard work. I have endured these attacks silently and have never answered them. Now that I am in public office there have been some terrible attacks against me in some magazines that are an insult to my dignity and my home. Besides, these attacks jeopardize my family.

I have been the victim of attacks at other times. My driver was nearly killed, bombs have been hurled at my home, and a vehicle was almost smashed into the back of my home. I have endured all of these things responsibly and have never complained. Now the attacks in the magazine force me to realize that there is an atmosphere of violence from all sides. I hold this public office to promote peace and help the people, and I hope the people will attain peace. I am not here to be the victim of attacks. [end recording]

More on 'Irrevocable' Resignation

PY2106134891 Lima Radio Nacional del Peru Pachacutec Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] Fisheries Minister Felix Canal Torres has confirmed his resignation from the position he has held since February. In a letter to President Alberto Fujimori he explained the reasons for his resignation and thanked the president for his confidence.

[Begin recording, in progress] [Canal] ...submitted my irrevocable resignation to the president. I thanked the president for his confidence. I believe I carried out my job with a great deal of love, dedication, and openness.

[Unidentified reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Canal] I resigned because of an attitude that I consider to be serious and harmful to my dignity.

[Reporter] What attitude?

[Canal] The latest attacks by some senators and deputies who told the media about some irregularities.

[Reporter] Did you have the president's confidence in the face of these attacks?

[Canal] I had the president's confidence; he told me I was doing an excellent job. In this regard, I am very thankful to the president for his remarks about my administration.

This job has some risks. Dear reporters, this job is not an award. This job is a risk because I am risking my life and my family's life. I was insulted last week regarding a trip I made last April. A daily published an unjust headline, a totally incorrect headline. I demonstrated that the trip did not cost the state anything and that as a result of this trip we received a donation of a complete system for automating the Fisheries Ministry. Through this trip I was able to go to Italy to attend an international meeting in an effort to rescue Peru's image with the support of a Latin American group sharing the effects of cholera, especially regarding selling our products. We also received the aid of a mission that will be arriving next September to assist the national plan for fisheries development. We also received $150 million for research. These are the results of my trip over which so many comments of bad faith were made.

Now a new campaign with very bad intentions has emerged. I am deeply offended for one simple reason: How could a senator of the caliber of Luis Bedoya de Vivanco say on television that my brother-in-law is (Bela David), Pescapeco executive board president? This type of comment seems very unjust to me because it distorts an image and casts doubt about me. [end recording]

New Minister Sworn In 21 Jun

PY2106220691 Madrid EFE in English 1927 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] Lima, June 21 (EFE)—President Alberto Fujimori on Friday [21 June] swore in Jaime Agustin Sobero Taira as Peru's third fisheries minister in less than a year. Sobero, who was formerly director of the Peruvian Institute of the Sea, took up the portfolio following the resignation Thursday of Felix Canal Torres.

Labor Ministry, Marines Target of Terrorists

PY2106223891 Madrid EFE in English 2008 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] Lima, June 21 (EFE)—Two Peruvian marines and two suspected leftist guerrillas were killed Friday [21 June] in separate incidents around the Peruvian capital, authorities reported.

Authorities said the two marines were killed in Ventanilla, a district just outside Lima, when a presumed rebel set off a car bomb as a bus carrying military personnel passed by. Six other passengers in the bus were also injured. Some 500 marines have been conducting searches for leftist rebels in Ventanilla.

In a separate incident, two suspected guerrillas were killed and two policemen were wounded in a shootout in the suburban area of Sima del Callao, authorities said.

Also on Tuesday in the Villa El Salvador district of the capital, suspected leftists and police exchanged gunfire but no victims were reported.

In another attack, an unidentified person driving a motorcycle at a high rate of speed threw a bomb at the building housing the Labor Ministry causing minor damage. Authorities said the explosion early Friday was heard several kilometers from the site. Police said pamphlets of the leftist Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) were found at the scene.

Meanwhile, 15 members of peasant militia forces and two members of the Maoist "Shining Path" rebel group have been killed in three incidents in the south of the country, authorities said Friday. The killings occurred Tuesday in the southern department of Ayacucho, authorities said.

More than half of Peru's 22 million people live under a state of emergency due to violence by the country's two main guerrilla groups, Shining Path and MRTA. More than 22,000 people have died in political violence since Shining Path took up arms in 1980.

Lima District Mayor Killed by Alleged Terrorists

PY2306215491 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2340 GMT 22 Jun 91

[Text] Lima, 22 Jun (EFE)—Alejandro Magno Gomez, mayor of the self-administered Lima district of Villa El Salvador, was murdered on 22 June by alleged terrorists. The murder occurred at Magno Gomez' shop in the densely populated district of La Victoria. Three unidentified men entered the shop and shot 40-year-old Magno Gomez three times, once in the head.

Army Casualties in Soldiers-Shining Path Clash

PA2306234991 Lima America Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Jun 91

[Text] Heavy fighting was reported between soldiers and Shining Path rebels near Tarapoto. The fighting took place in Punta Arenas and Campanillas; one soldier was killed and eight were wounded. The wounded soldiers were flown to Lima this afternoon aboard an Air Force Hercules plane which landed amid tight security. An ambulance entered the military base to take the soldiers to a military hospital. The fighting in Punta Arenas and Campanillas, south of Tarapoto, took place at dawn yesterday when an Army column was ambushed by Shining Path rebels. The clash lasted until 0500 this morning, and it is believed that the rebels suffered a heavy casualty toll.

Policeman Killed; New Security at Enatru

PY2206031891 Lima Radio Nacional del Peru Pachacutec Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Report by Fabio Rojas]

[Text] A member of the security police force was killed by subversives in Tingo Maria before dawn yesterday. Subversives killed NCO Nolazco Condor Gaudencio, who will be buried in Lima today. Condor Gaudencio was ambushed by subversives in the area known as El Puente, 10 km from Tingo Maria.

Moreover, a large police contingent is now in charge of security of all National Urban Transport Enterprise [Enatru] and government properties in Lima to protect them from subversive attacks and to guarantee normal urban transportation services. This measure was adopted in view of recent violence in Lima and possible strikes by Enatru employees.

Peasants, Terrorists Die in Ayacucho Clashes

PY2206195091 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1921 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] Ayacucho (Peru), 21 Jun (EFE)—The police reported today that 15 members of the civilian militia known as the Peasant Defense Patrol died in three clashes in Ayacucho Department.

The source said that on 18 June, 150 Shining Path terrorists murdered eight militiamen, and two terrorists were killed in clashes in Chacca and Puro Townships. The police said Peasant Defense Patrol members managed to drive off the terrorists, killing two of them. One of the dead terrorists was identified as "Comrade Mauro," who is regarded as the "military" chief of Huanta Province, where Chacca and Puro are located.

In another attack on the same day in Los Molinos, Huamanga Province, where Ayacucho is located, terrorists killed seven other militiamen.

Since the Peruvian Government has decided to gradually arm the Peasant Defense Patrols with shotguns, the Shining Path terrorist organization has intensified its attacks on them in Peru's central mountain range. According to a Peruvian Senate committee that analyzes political violence in the country, terrorism has caused 22,500 deaths and $18 billion worth of damage over the last 11 years.

Terrorist Casualties Reported in Clash

PA2406012991 Lima America Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 22 Jun 91

[Text] Three terrorists were killed [as heard] in a clash with police in El Callao. The terrorists were planning to attack the chief of the 70th Army headquarters, but they were repelled. Two policemen were wounded in this incident.

At 0915 in El Callao, one rebel was killed and two others were wounded after a clash with policemen. The shooting began as a police car chased a light blue Toyota Corona with license plate number KQ1984 after the policemen realized that five terrorists were attempting to kill the major in charge of the 70th Army headquarters.

When the police car hit the first block past the (?Felipe Tinglo) turn in La Perla, the Army officer's bodyguards repelled the attack. Four of the five terrorists were arrested, and one terrorist was killed on the spot after being shot in the chest. Meanwhile, one female terrorist managed to escape.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] How did this happen?

[Unidentified police officer] As we were driving we were attacked by surprise so we returned fire.

[Reporter] What commander are you guarding?

[Officer] [Words indistinct]

[Reporter] How did you realize that you were being chased?

[Officer] [Words indistinct] [end recording]

Two policemen identified as Sergeant Garcia Aquino and a Corporal whose last name is Chiroque were also wounded. Both the policemen and the three terrorists arrested were immediately taken to the San Juan Hospital. A large police contingent supported by the Navy immediately began searching for the terrorist who escaped.

Venezuela

Military Commander Warns About Coup, Corruption

PA2106181491 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1648 GMT 21 Jun 91

[Text] Caracas, 21 Jun (DPA)—In a controversial speech, a high-ranking Venezuelan military officer has broken with traditional military policy by warning about the danger of a military coup to end the corruption prevailing in the highest levels of the government.

Outgoing Army Commander General Carlos Penaloza Zambrano said last night that corruption is a threat to Venezuelan democracy, adding that the state's leadership cannot exclusively be in the hands of politicians.

Penaloza gave this statement when turning over his command at Army Headquarters in Caracas to his successor, General Pedro Rangel Rojas.

In a first reaction, Defense Minister General Hector Jurado Toro said that the statement "is completely different from the speech that is normally given by military authorities," but he denied that Gen. Penaloza will be punished for it. "That is the way he perceives many activities within the Armed Forces," he added.

According to Penaloza, there is a group of Venezuelans—both civilians and military—who believe that "the homeland's honor can only be defended" by abolishing democracy and establishing "an authoritarian regime." In that case, he added, the country would again fall prey to despotism.

Nevertheless, the military officer warned that "the state's leadership is too important to leave it only to politicians."

Penaloza said that "the corrupt do not limit themselves to looking for easy money and riches and bleeding the country; instead, they have also embarked on the search for political power and to infiltrate the state's foremost institutions."

Penaloza's statement has been issued amid innumerable public accusations against Armed Forces members and opposition and government politicians, who are reportedly involved in corruption and drug trafficking activities. They even include the defense minister, who was accused of being involved in a multimillion dollar deal for the refurbishing of six frigates.

President Carlos Andres Perez tried to prevent a political crisis during the weekend by dismissing the head of his personal security guards and replacing the military intelligence director, who has been publicly accused of being involved in a drug trafficking case.

Zambrano urged the Venezuelans to "launch a moral crusade" against corruption. "If we do not do this on time, it will destroy the country and take us back to repression, and we will lose our liberty."

He conceded that his speech seemed improper of a military officer, but he insisted that "the military is a legitimate and important part of society, and it is therefore an institution that has something to say and must be heard."